

HOME NEWS

Constraint on price of telephone services will cut real cost by 5% annually over next five years

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

The Government and the Post Office Corporation have agreed on severe constraints on the price of telephone services over the next five years.

The move, disclosed in a White Paper issued yesterday, precedes the expected announcement on Monday that the corporation (now run by a new-style board with employee directors) will announce record profits of well over £300m for the financial year ended in March.

Taking the past accounting year as a base, the Government has negotiated so-called five-year performance aims to supplement present financial targets. The agreement provides for a general reduction in the real unit cost of telephone services of some 5 per cent a year over the years to 1983-84.

Charges for services, held constant since October, 1975, will depend on the future rate of inflation. Prices will be frozen if that rate is held at 5 per cent a year.

Mr William Barlow, the Post Office chairman, said yesterday that he thought a reduction in real costs of services by a quarter from the present was a reasonable target. The board aimed to expand business. There was no threat to jobs.

For postal services, where prices are still frozen at levels set in June last year, the aim is to hold real unit costs in line with rates of inflation or below.

Some tariff adjustments are therefore likely, but they will be restricted by cost controls, and reductions in manpower through natural wastage.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, who introduced yesterday's White Paper on future policy and the Government's response to last year's review of the corporation by a committee led by Professor Sir Charles Carter, said the Government did not want the public to believe charges were unjustified. The aim was to

reduce prices rather than maximize profits.

The White Paper rejects the Carter committee's idea of creating a new advisory council. The Government has also shelved a decision on whether to split the corporation into two separate businesses because of the present experiment in industrial democracy under a new board. Other proposals are:

The appointment to the board of a director from the Department of Industry. But Mr Kaufman said there would be no conflict of interest or excessive power for the official arising from the official's other plan to take powers for ministerial intervention in policy-making in the national interest.

A joint working party with the board to produce detailed comparisons between Britain's postal and telephone services and those of other countries.

The submission of annually revised long-term plans for main Post Office business, for which legislation will be needed.

New legislation to strengthen the role and rights of the Post Office Users' National Council. It will have a statutory right to be consulted on plans and to be entitled to recruit staff outside the Civil Service.

Industrial democracy to be introduced at regional and area board levels. Codes of practice related to customers' rights are being prepared.

Government backing for the introduction of the next generation of computer-controlled telephone exchanges. Plans to measure telephone call success and failures are to be completed by about 1982.

The lifting of statutory restrictions on some services offered by post offices to allow the handling of agency business for other state industries. A design study is being conducted on the layout and environment of local post offices. Ending of doubt and delay about mechanization of postal services.

Continuation of discussions on a merger of Giro with the National Savings Bank. Completion of studies on the future of the Post Office's role in the community. Market research spending is being greatly increased and the corporation has undertaken to pay more

attention to the needs of small business and individual customers.

Negotiations are taking place with postal unions on a revised productivity scheme allowing the introduction of traffic measurement to fight rising costs and improve services.

The Government has endorsed in principle the board's idea for overcoming the difficulty of the Post Office Pension Fund's deficit, which costs consumers 1p on a letter and 3p on a telephone call. The fund would be issued with an interest-bearing security created from post profits held in general reserve. Details are being worked out.

Mr Kaufman said that it was vital for the Post Office to retain its statutory monopolies, and added: "But monopolies must be justified by very high standards and that is why the whole emphasis in this White Paper is on efficiency and the quality of service."

An unusual feature of the White Paper is the inclusion of an annex in which Sir William's board gives its reactions to the government policy.

Union threat: Mr Bryan Stanbury, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, said the success of the plans depended on the cooperation of his union, and unless its claim for shorter hours was settled quickly, there would be no co-operation.

The engineers wanted the best service to customers, but in return expected a share of the benefits, including a shorter working week.

The union still believed the postal and telecommunications businesses should be managed by separate boards.

Lord Camoys, president of the Mail Users' Association, welcomed the White Paper as "a positive document". He added that even if the union's on-work and traffic measurement and on the letter mechanization programme, which had been delayed by the engineering union.

The Post Office Users' National Council generally welcomed the proposals.

Mr Powell attacks Tory race cynicism

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's opinion that Britain was being "swamped" by immigrants had been gaged for reasons of political advantage, Mr Enoch Powell, Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, said yesterday.

As further evidence of "cynical opportunism" by the Conservative Party, he contrasted the concern expressed about brutal attacks on minorities with a silence about the places where they had lived all their lives. The Conservatives wished to win the minority vote which was important in several marginal seats, he said.

Mr Powell made his accusations at Devizes to the Wiltshire Monday Club. He lamented the undermining of national identity and interests and said the country's political leadership was ignoring the will of the people and not speaking for Britain.

It was in that wider context that he directed his attack on Mrs Thatcher. He said there had been a great surge of hope and relief throughout the country at a word she had used on television. It was an echo of the overwhelming public response that greeted a speech he had made in Birmingham 10 years before.

The word was "swamped". "People," said Mrs Thatcher, "are really rather afraid that this country might be rather swamped by people with a different culture." However, precisely expressed, people knew what she meant, and they knew that it was the truth. The fear was a real fear; the swamping was a real swamping.

He said after the case: "I am shocked and amazed by the decision."

Criticizing the way blood samples were handled, he said: "If blood was taken away in a bottle with an identifying sticker on it, I would accept that. But when it is a piece of paper held on by a rubber band, one wonders how many other people have suffered from a mistake as I have suffered."

Mr Green was arrested after driving into a car park at a public house. He was alleged to have bumped a woman's car, to have been refused a drink three times after time and to have driven away erratically.

He said in court that he had stopped in the public house in Truxhampton to telephone his housekeeper, but was told to get out because it was after 11. It was while he was slowing down, then speeding up in his car, looking for a telephone box, that he was stopped.

Mr Green, who is 33 and lives in Baker Street, London, said after the hearing that he would appeal.

British party leaves today for world youth festival

Aim is honest stand on rights

By Ian Bradley

The first party of British delegates to the World Festival of Youth and Students leaves for Havana today. Earlier this week Mr Trevor Phillips, president of the National Union of Students and leader of the 130-member delegation, banned seven hard-line communists from the delegation because of their opposition to any questioning of the human rights records of Russia and Cuba.

Mr Phillips said yesterday: "The delegation is still not as broadly based as we would like it to have been, but I am confident that we can press ahead in Cuba with an honest and independent British stand on human rights as well as on other vital issues such as youth unemployment." Conservatives and some non-political youth organizations withdrew earlier.

The festival, which is held every five years, is organized by the Marxist-dominated World Federation of Democratic Youth. This year's festival is the first to be held outside east Europe.

British participation first ran into trouble in May when the Young Conservatives and the Federation of Conservative Students withdrew on the grounds that the festival agenda did not include any general discussion of human rights and was confined to pro-communist topics.

Mr Peter Mandelson, chairman of the British Youth Council and deputy leader of the delegation, said: "As a direct result of the Tories' decision to withdraw, and a subsequent article in *The Times* by Bernard Levin, a number of important non-political youth organizations, such as the Girl Guides and the Young Farmers, pulled out of the festival, and the Foreign Office decided not to give us a £50,000 grant which would have enabled us to have had a substantial non-party political contingent in the British delegation."

It is understood that the seven delegates who were banned by Mr Phillips were all nominated by local trade union branches to fill places left after other bodies had withdrawn. Several were connected with the New Communist Party, which last year broke away from the Communist Party of Great Britain because of its "reformist" approach.

British delegates will be distributing leaflets on human rights which mention the recent trials of dissidents in the Soviet Union. There will be British speakers in the debates on Northern Ireland, South Africa, young people in capitalist countries, and the new international economic order.

The festival, which begins next Friday, will involve more than 20,000 delegates, most from communist countries; in the British delegation are Miss Margaret Scargill, daughter of Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' union leader, and Miss Catherine Flannery, daughter of Mr Martin Flannery, the left-wing Labour MP. Both are sponsored by the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Judge wants more power for police at marches

A policeman should have greater powers of direction and dispersal while a march is taking place than are available under the Public Order Act, 1966, Lord Scarman said yesterday.

He was delivering a lecture to mark governors' day at the National Police College, Bramshill, Hampshire.

"Must a policeman, as he always waits for a breach of peace, or an imminent threat of it, before he acts? The law has not been just to meet the realities of an industrial society entitled to exercise freedom of speech."

"The truth is that there is no modern law governing priorities in the use by society of its streets and public places," he said. "This lack of clarity imposes a burden on our police when they are required to be involved in a confrontation, political otherwise."

The police were being handicapped by "uncertain, are and undeveloped" laws, he said, with public disorder caused by extremist political groups. He asked if it was surprising that in incidents such as Grimsby and Red Square the police were out of control and the public none the wiser about what had happened to them.

Lord Scarman chaired the enquiry into both incidents. A public disturbance policeman was confronted by both opposing factions and public, most of whom were only peace and quiet. A public servant, a police officer, must be faithful to all that the law requires of him.

At the scene of a public disturbance should be expected, particularly as it involved had recourse to a police officer. The decision at the moment of it is and must be accepted, Scarman said.

The improvement in police way and conditions was a result of the effective of the police depended on rely on their numbers.

Climber killed
Mr Leonard Vines, age of 55, of St. Giles, Frome, Somerset, was killed on Thursday when he fell 70 feet from a cliff in a disused quarry.

Call to widen prescription of the pill

The Medicines Commission, the Government's senior advisory body on drugs, in its annual report published yesterday, backed proposals that nurses, shop dispensing chemists and health visitors should be allowed to prescribe the contraceptive pill.

The suggestion that trained health workers should be given the power was put forward in 1976 by a government working party, set up by Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Other bodies, including the Committee on Safety of Medicines and the General Health Services Council, have supported the proposal or given it qualified support.

But the Royal College of Nursing says that nurses should prescribe the pill only after initial examination and prescription by a doctor.

Dr Michael Smith, honorary chief medical officer with the Family Planning Association, yesterday welcomed the Medicines Commission move.

The Committee on Safety of Medicines received 11,255 notifications of adverse reactions to drugs last year, nearly double the 1976 total, its annual report says. It reflects the growing awareness among doctors that they should report suspected adverse reactions.

Repeal Bill sets right 'dirty trick' of 1535
By Our Parliamentary Staff

An injustice done to Sir Thomas More more than 400 years ago was remedied in the Commons yesterday by the passage through all its stages of the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill, a consolidation measure which has already passed the House of Lords.

The Bill repeals 222 Acts dating from 1421 to last year and 136 parts of his company's measure, on the ground that they are no longer practical.

Among them was an Act of 1535 which took away from Sir Thomas More a conveyance on the ground that he had obtained his "faint" at Chelsea fraudulently.

Mr Arthur Davidson, Parliamentary Secretary, Law Officers' Department, in charge of the Bill, said: "It seems to suggest that in the court of Henry VIII there was a 'dirty' tricks department, and a very effective one."

Thirty ships trapped by dock-gate men's strike

A strike of 350 dock-gate men which has closed the port of Liverpool continues this week-end with more than 30 cargo ships trapped in the docks.

A queue of incoming ships is forming at the Mersey Bar, 18 miles from the Pier Head. Efforts to resolve the semi-official dispute will be made on Monday with a mass meeting of the men.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Company said it would be addressed by district officers of the Transport and General Workers' Union, on whose advice the men began the dispute on Thursday night. The men agreed to free two Mersey cruise ships to enable them to sail today.

One will carry 400 children on an educational cruise to the Manchester Ship Canal and the other will complete two cruises on the river, one for a private charter.

British Rail said yesterday that services across the Irish Sea might be disrupted over the weekend because of a strike by clerical members of the railway.

In brief
Guard jailed for £99,000 theft
A security guard who drugged a colleague before making off with £99,000 from his company's safe was jailed for three years at Oxford Crown Court yesterday.

Royal Tournament
Results in yesterday's heats in the field-golf competition at the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court, London, were:

Crash dead named
Three people killed in a two-car crash in West Cubria on Thursday night were named yesterday. They were: Mr Leonard Pearce, aged 42, a fire officer, of Albion Street, Cockermouth; and Mr and Mrs James Bailey, aged 71 and 72 respectively, of Coronation Crescent, Dislington.

Paper strike ends
Striking journalists on the *Survey*, *Comet*, *London Herald* and *Middlesex Chronicle* newspapers voted yesterday to end their dispute of four weeks after a management proposal to employ six journalists on the *Herald*, which is to be distributed free.

Yachtsman identified
A body recovered on Thursday from Bigbury Bay, Devon, was identified yesterday as that of Mr Timothy Holmes-Sleight, aged 36, of St. John's Terrace, Devonport, Cornwall, whose three-masted yacht was washed ashore three weeks ago.

More disabled may claim rate relief

By Our Social Services Correspondent

More disabled people will qualify for rate relief under a law that received the Royal Assent yesterday. The Rating (Disabled Persons) Act, which takes effect on April 1 next, will give rate rebates to private dwellings and residential homes for the disabled. It is a private member's measure sponsored by Mr Robert Hughes, Labour MP for Aberdeenshire North.

The present law has been confused for more than six years after several court actions over whether an entire flat occupied by a severely disabled person could be exempt from rates. The new law specifies more clearly precisely

when rate relief is available and changes the present system of allowing a reduction in the rateable value to one of giving rebates for facilities designed to meet the needs of disabled people.

Mr Alfred Morris, Under-Secretary of State for the Disabled, said yesterday that the Act would make it easier for disabled people to claim rate relief. It would give disabled people living at home and those running institutions for them a clear idea of when they were entitled to claim.

Conservative promises
A Conservative government would do more to help disabled people to acquire cars, Mr Patrick Jenkin, opposition

Boy 'enjoyed' annoying widow of 69

By Our Correspondent

A boy, aged 15, who cut the hair of Mrs Linda Bilson, slapped her and tipped stuff from her settee said in a statement he enjoyed seeing her become annoyed. Nottingham Juvenile Court was told yesterday.

The boy, who was committed to the Crown Court for sentence with a view to borstal training, was the last of several children to appear before the juvenile court in connection with offences against Mrs. Bilson, a widow, who died from natural causes last weekend, aged 69.

The boy admitted two charges of assault, one of criminal damage, and one of handling money stolen from Mrs Bilson. A further charge of indecent assault was withdrawn.

Service wives' sacrifice is noted at peace awards
By a Staff Reporter

Sir Neil Campbell, Chief of the Defence Staff, paid tribute yesterday to the sacrifice and patience of Service wives, particularly those of men in bomb-disposal units. He was making the annual Wilkinson "Sword of Peace" awards to units of the Armed Forces at a luncheon in London.

The ceremonial swords are awarded in recognition of efforts by Service units to foster good relations with local communities. The scheme owes its origin to Samuel Snooks, a Lieutenant in the Bombay Marine, the British East India Company, who behaved as an officer and gentleman towards a group of refugee women in the 1790s.

Man swore at Queen

Dermott Glidean of Great Titchfield Street, Westminster, who swore at the Queen outside a West End cinema, was fined £15 at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday for insulting language and obstruction.

He was bound over to keep the peace.

The swords yesterday were awarded to Naval Party 8901, 42 officers and men of the Royal Marines, who have helped to maintain communications in the Falkland Islands; 321 Explosive Ordnance Unit, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, for its work in defusing bombs in Northern Ireland; and RAF Aldergrove, also in Northern Ireland, for its work with local families, particularly among mentally handicapped children.

Sir Neil recalled that 16 men had been killed and 10 injured on bomb disposal work in Northern Ireland since 1969. In all, 3,800 bombs containing more than 110,000lb of explosives had been neutralized. The long service of the wives left behind, he said, had been magnificent, though their contribution had been little recognized.

Joint lead in Silk chess
George Bortolli and Jonathan Spielman won convincingly to retain the lead in the Robert Silk chess tournament in London yesterday. Robert Wade shared the lead after four rounds, but in the fifth he snatched a pawn from Paul Littlewood, got his queen trapped, and was finally checkmated.

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Weather forecast and recordings
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Moon sets: 10.13 pm
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Agency journalists reimpose sanctions

By Donald MacIntyre
Labour Reporter

Journalists at the Press Association, the national news agency, reimposed industrial sanctions yesterday in support of a pay claim. They had lifted them a fortnight ago to allow talks to continue.

The action yesterday caused minor limitations to the agency's service of news to newspapers and other organizations. The main effect was on its racing service. The agency was unable to provide complete lists of jockeys and betting forecasts.

The NPA National Union of Journalists' chapel (office branch) is seeking parity with other Fleet Street journalists who, it says, are paid between £1,750 and £2,000 a year more on average. The NPA men have been offered an increase of 10 per cent from May 1, a revised grading structure, examination of a possible productivity deal, and an increase in some expense allowances. The offer is said to represent £586 on average, with a 10 per cent

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WEST EUROPE

Peak holiday flights face series of long delays as air traffic controllers extend work-to-rule

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, July 21

The air traffic controllers of Bordeaux and Aix-en-Provence have decided to resume working to rule this weekend, and every weekend until the end of September, if they do not obtain satisfaction of their demands. Those of Bordeaux have decided to follow suit.

Their action is bound to cause the same big delays as at last weekend, when it began, in the case of all flights from northern Europe to Spain, the Canary Islands, and North Africa.

The Paris controllers will determine their attitude on Tuesday. If they join the protest, air traffic threatens to be completely disrupted at a peak holiday season, when the July holidaymakers return, and the August ones take off. Last weekend, the airports of Ibiza, Palma and Mahón had to be closed down.

Discontent has been rampant among French controllers for

several years, with working to rule, sanctions and dismissals. This discontent involves both the security of air traffic and pay and conditions of work. By law, they are not allowed to strike.

They have therefore decided to work to rule and apply air traffic control regulations strictly in order to bring pressure on the authorities and obtain satisfaction of their demands. They want to be given the right to strike.

They complain that the equipment they use (radar, computers and communications) is substandard but not sufficiently reliable; that they are under strength to cope with the increase in air traffic especially at holiday time; and that the monthly bonuses (about one-third of their total pay) have hardly increased since 1970.

The joint controllers' trade union organization emphasized in a statement a couple of days ago that the increase in traffic and shortage of staff had

"greatly heightened the serious risk of air collisions". Its members at Bordeaux, Aix, and now Brest, have decided to apply maximum security norms.

This means that they will control only eight to 10 aircraft at the same time, instead of the 15 to 18 they have been dealing with, and the maximum of 14 laid down by these norms, thereby reducing traffic over the air terminals affected by about half.

At Bordeaux, this meant eight hours delay last weekend on flights from London, and about four on flights from Paris and Amsterdam.

M. Joël Le Theule, the Minister of Transport, received a delegation of air traffic controllers earlier this month and told them that the 1979 budget would provide for a readjustment of pay and conditions. He added that the extension of the Rhéims air control centre to relieve the north Orly centre would be speeded up, but this did not satisfy the men.

Foul French beaches named in report

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, July 21

The annual report published by the Administration for Social and Sanitary Action on the cleanliness of French beaches is always an explosive document. The authorities try to strike a difficult balance between the protection of public health and their desire to avoid damaging the commercial and tourist interest of seaside resorts.

Their verdict this year—with the very big exception of the north-western coast polluted by the wreck of the Amoco Cadiz supertanker—is that the overall cleanliness of beaches has improved since last summer.

According to the Ministry for the Environment, the number of sewage plants along the coast, the absence of which, even more than oil pollution by tankers, remains a principal cause of pollution, increased from 171 in 1971 to 320 last year. But there are still areas, like that of Marseilles, where such plants are absent or inadequate.

The latest issue of *Que Choisir*, the publication of the National Union of Consumers, does not share the optimism of officialdom. It claims that bacteriological pollution is increasing faster than ever and that control of it is slackening.

It bases its findings on a comparison of official statistics for 1975-76 and for 1977. The latter figures show that samples of sea water tested in 540 localities showed that in just over two thirds, conditions were good to satisfactory, while in 27 per cent they showed "temporary pollution", and in 7.8 per cent, conditions were bad.

The figures for 1975-76 show that beaches where conditions were good on average had been higher at 73 per cent. There were 27 per cent "not satisfactory" and only 5.3 per cent where they were bad.

The whole controversy turns on the interpretation of the official statistics. *Que Choisir* says that a higher number of places in which tests have been carried out this year is used unjustifiably as an argument for an overall improvement.

Among the bad spots found by its investigators are Wimereux, in the Pas de Calais; Veules-les-Roses, Roule and Port en Bessin, in Normandy; Arcachon, in the south-west; Trébeurden, in Finistère; Méze in the Languedoc, and St Laurent du Var, all described as "very dirty".

The Ministry of Health's classification of very polluted beaches is sometimes different. It mentions Dieppe, Cherbourg and Saint Malo, as "black spots" in the Channel; Piriou near St Nazaire and some beaches in the Landes on the Atlantic coast.

As for the pollution from the Amoco Cadiz, out of 81 beaches controlled, in the Côtes du Nord, only 10 have been ruled "of bad quality", temporarily or otherwise, while in Finistère, only one beach is closed,

Trust seeks better grants for buildings

By John Young

Planning Reporter

The Government's spending on historic buildings, compared with its support for the arts, is criticized in the latest issue of *Civic Trust News*. In a leading article, the trust says that grants from the Historic Buildings Council in 1975 were under half the allocation to the arts Council. This year's figures are £6m and £39m respectively.

Discounting inflation, the exchequer's "generosity" to music, drama and the visual arts has increased 55-fold, while that to historic architecture, "often said to be our finest contribution to Western art", has gone up only 16 times, it says.

Money for the arts should not be begrudged, the trust says. As Mr Kenneth Robinson, chairman of the Arts Council, remarked last year, such expenditure is "modest enough in all conscience".

If, as Mr Robinson said, the contribution of tourists to the balance of payments outweighs the amount spent on the arts, that is even truer in the case of historic buildings, which rate highly as "cultural amenities", the trust says.

"Under £6m to support so vast an array of fine buildings, streets and towns is paltry and unwise," the trust says. "If we leave the Historic Buildings Council with its present teaspoon budget, more buildings will be left to rot or be demolished, more conservation areas will be neglected and we shall all be poorer."

In an interview in the magazine, Mrs Jennifer Jenkins, the council's chairman, suggests that the main reason for historic architecture's being less favoured is lack of publicity.

"Restoring old buildings does not have the same continuing news value as a new play, a new national theatre, a new opera or an orchestra going bust", she says.

There should be a presumption within a national park assumption that large-scale and intrusive development unless an overriding need can be demonstrated, Mr Theo Burrell, national park officer for the Peak District, said yesterday.

The Government's proposed modifications to the Peak Park structure plan systematically removed policies expressing such a presumption. They ignored the possibility that unsightly countryside might become more highly valued as it declines in extent, and as leisure time increased.

Unpaid holidays as part of ILO economies

From Our Correspondent

Geneva, July 21

Nearly 1,500 members of the staff of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) are to take four days' unpaid extra holiday over the next six months. The money saved will be used to help other staff hit by the economy programme.

Under the programme, which was agreed last year, the ILO will draw down from the ILO of the United States which provided 25 per cent of the organization's total budget.

The reduction in remuneration involved is 2.2 per cent of basic salary. Allowances will not be affected.

The saving will enable the ILO to extend by three months the contracts of some 40 persons, both executive and clerical, who have not yet found other posts.

Under the economies, about 100 other staff members have already had their engagements terminated or have chosen earlier retirement.

San Sebastian, July 21.—The Spanish Government has granted 2m pesetas (£13,000) to the Basque town of Renteria to pay for damage caused by riot police who rampaged through the town a week ago, looting shops and smashing windows.

The police action, widely condemned by politicians and the press, was described by Senator Rodolfo Martín Villa, the Interior Minister, as "incomprehensible". The commander in charge of the squad was immediately dismissed after the affair.

Jail term of 20 years urged at Breton bomb trial

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, July 21

In his four-hour summing up this afternoon against the 14 Breton autonomists on trial before the Court for State Security, the Chief Prosecutor demanded a 20-year prison sentence against M Serge Rojinski.

The prosecutor marked out M Rojinski, aged 31, a private school teacher, as the leader of the "Régiment" group of the A.B.F.L. (the Breton Revolutionary Army of the Breton Liberation Front), accusing him of planning 13 bomb attacks between 1975 and 1977 on public and private property, as well as the theft of explosives and the recruitment of an illegal organization.

For seven others of the accused, including M René Kerhous, a Treasury official who returned last Monday from an assignment in Zaire, he demanded sentences of between 15 and eight years. Suspended sentences were suggested for most of the remaining defendants.

The prosecutor insisted several times that he had no wish to impugn the honour of the accused, but he brushed aside their assertion that their

violent actions were "symbolic, never intended to harm individuals, but the only means left to the defenders of the Breton people of drawing attention to the problems of Brittany. They had claimed credit for all 13 bomb attacks, some of which had caused extensive material damage, so there was no question of their share in them."

There had been a steady escalation in the dangerous character of the group's activities. To carry out the last of their attacks, some of them had been armed, which did not accord with the "symbolic character" of their action. Those are "gangsters' methods", the prosecutor insisted.

"You are but a handful and your struggle, your methods, are suicidal for Brittany," he mentioned the economic problems of his native Lorraine.

"Am I for that reason, going to blow up gendarmeries there?" he asked. "You are lunatics, with a nostalgia for a past irretrievably overtaken by events."

Nine lawyers have been lined up by the defence, including a Swiss and a Belgian. They will plead all day Monday, and the court will pass sentence on Tuesday.

French President leaves Portugal

Lisbon, July 21.—President Giscard d'Estaing returned to Paris tonight after a three-day visit to Portugal.

President Soares and Senator Maria Soares, the Prime Minister, were on hand to say goodbye as he left Lisbon.—AP.

Italy proposes amnesty Bill

Rome, July 21.—The Italian Cabinet today adopted a Bill that would grant amnesty for offences committed before December 31, 1977, that are punishable by a maximum of three years' imprisonment.

Agence France-Presse.



He never hears a word his mother says. And he never will.

If we say he's deaf, you'll probably think, Poor kid, but it might have been a lot worse.

Think again.

If he's totally deaf, he won't hear his own voice, let alone anyone else's. A hearing aid will be useless. Life will be like a silent film, without captions.

If his disability is not so severe and he is able to wear a hearing aid, it could still be like spending every moment of every day listening to a 'phone call on a bad line.

If he learns to lip read, he will have to guess what's being said because so many mouth movements look the same. For example P B and M as in Pat, Bar and Mat.

If he suffers from one kind of deafness he'll hear only vowels. The most desperate of human calamities will sound like: 'E o b e u h a o o a a a i'.

If he suffers from another kind of deafness he won't hear quiet sounds, but loud sounds will cause him great pain. Life won't be made any easier by friends who know 'he's a little deaf' and shout all the time.

Deafness is maybe a lot worse than most of us think.

If you want to do something, give money to the RNID so that we may continue our work. At least give more consideration to the deaf. Even better, give both.

RNID. The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

Send your donation to RNID, Room 21, 145 Great Street, London, W1C 3AW. For more information telephone 01-582 3111.

HOME NEWS

7th century mill is given new lease of life

By Ronald Kershaw

Along the banks of the river at Worsbrough, in one of Yorkshire's minor dales, stands pride of the recreation, culture and health department of Yorkshire County Council. It is a 350-year-old water-mill, painstakingly restored to working order and still doing flour to the delight of thousands of visitors each year.

The mill has been shortlisted this year's conservation awards sponsored by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The mill was mentioned in the 1086 Domesday Book but the present structure was built in about 1700. It was driven by an over-waterwheel, 16ft in diameter, powered by three sets of millstones and managed to the demand for its flour, the 19th-century population explosion in the area. To with increased demand a second mill was added, together they served the adjoining community until the part of this century.

The ground floor for bread fell from favour and the decline of the mill. It was not enough to keep both watermills running, the watermill was working grinding barley, peas and beans for animal fodder. By 1960 the mill barely in working order, the structure derelict.

The request of local farmers and educationists, former West Riding County Council bought the mill in 1971. The Coal Board, into possession it had passed, a modest amount of restoration work was started. The restoration of local authorities gave the mill to South Yorkshire County Council.



The bagging and drive floor of Worsbrough's mill.

which set about restoration in earnest in 1974. About £60,000 has been spent so far, £26,000 or so coming from the council.

There were 1,000 applications for the post of curator of the mill. Mr Robert Shortland-Ball, a former teacher, was appointed.

Restoration of the structure was placed in the hands of a building firm at Barnsley, near by, under the supervision first of Mr W. T. C. Walker, former deputy chief architect of the West Riding County Council, and then of Mr Derek Pummell, chief architect for the South Yorkshire County Council.

Restoration of the machinery, however, became the sole

province of Mr Geoffrey Hatfield, a further education teacher and dedicated engineer who, over seven years of part-time work, fashioned, repaired and installed the necessary parts. When the project passed to the recreation culture and health department, Mr W. N. G. Gilmour, its chief officer, oversaw the work.

Powered by a 1911 Hornsby 24-litre hot-bulb oil engine, the mill now grinds flour which is sold in a kiosk with 18th-century recipes. It is the focal point of a country park and a centre for country fairs where the attractions include farriers, wooden bucket and clog makers, corn dolly weavers and other ancient crafts.

Offer to save marshland for birds

By Sarah Wright

Nature Editor

Nature Conservancy is offering to buy 5,500 of marshland on the Ribblesdale to prevent its being sold for agricultural land to create one of the largest nature reserves in the north.

The invitation to negotiate the sale was sent yesterday by the council to the new owners, Leirick Heerema, a Dutch farmer in reclamation, and B. Crook, a businessman, who about the area which will be used for winter feeding for two hundred and fifty

thousand migratory birds from Scandinavia, Europe and Russia, was raised at the beginning of July when a joint offer by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Nature Conservancy Council and the World Wildlife Fund was rejected. The sale was believed to be for £1.14m.

The area is one of the few listed as a grade 1 site of special scientific interest of international importance. The list is published in the *Nature Conservation Review*.

A temporary reprieve has been obtained through the local authorities. West Lancashire District Council placed an article 4 notice on Tuesday

covering three quarters of the land and Sefton Council is doing the same on Monday for the remainder.

The notice requires the owners to obtain planning approval for drainage and reclamation work, which is not usually subject to that procedure.

As a last resort, the Nature Conservancy Council has compulsory purchase powers under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. But that would be done with Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, on the ground that all reasonable attempts to protect wildlife had been made and failed.

Of interest' usation SNP

Our Correspondent

11 Scottish National MPs were accused yesterday of putting self-interest in the needs of Scotland in ing to reject the idea of a nationalist pact with the Government.

Charge was made by Mr. S. Sillars, Scottish Labour MP for Argyshire, South, last weekend, proposed a pact to Mr Donald Maclean, leader of the SNP Parliamentary Party, and to Mr. J. Evans, the Plaid Cymru leader.

With the SNP being that they hold their ideal seats on Tory votes, that survival has mattered and thus ruled out any pact with the Labour Government. It is one of Westminster's most open secrets none love the place more the Scottish nationalists.

ney divorce move

Albert Finney, aged 41, actor, has begun divorce proceedings against his wife, the actress, married in 1970.

Sitwell legend

Osbert and Sacheverell Sitwell were the extraordinary poets of eccentricity, spenders and ill-matched parents, George Sitwell and Ida Sitwell.

The *Sunday Times* as the first of three extracts of the definitive new biography by John Pearson of the poet's childhood and forces that gave them their ambition.

Fund doubles sea pollution compensation

By Peter Hill

Industrial Correspondent

An international fund that will double the compensation payable as a result of pollution from ships will come into force in mid-October, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO) announced yesterday.

The International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage was adopted in 1971 under the auspices of IMCO, which is sponsored by the United Nations.

Before it could become effective the convention had to be accepted by eight countries whose total imports of crude oil and fuel oil after carriage by sea amounted to 750 million tons. It has been accepted by 14 states, including Britain, West Germany and France.

Under a present convention, owners had to be required to pay a maximum equivalent to \$134 a ton of the ship's tonnage or \$14m, whichever is the smaller sum.

IMCO said that a result of the fund compensation may be paid beyond the level of the owner's liability. It will be financed by levies on companies or persons in the contracting states who import big quantities of oil after carriage by sea.

Mr C. P. Srivastava, secretary general of IMCO, said that introduction of the fund was of the greatest importance in an age when most of the world's oil was transported in huge tankers. "Recent incidents have shown how disastrous and costly it can be when one of these ships is involved in an accident", he said.

Three bogus workmen who "preyed" on old people were each sentenced to five years' imprisonment yesterday.

Lord Cameron told the three men at the High Court in Edinburgh: "You were like leeches extracting all the financial blood you could."

They were John Steven, aged 30, of Huntly Street, Edinburgh, who admitted fraud charges totalling £3,685; Andrew Barclay, aged 37, of Greenykes Terrace, Edinburgh; and William May, aged 46, of Dumbiedykes Road, Edinburgh. Mr May had been convicted earlier in the week of obtaining more than £3,000 in loans from a woman, aged 63, in Edinburgh.

Jail sentences have been imposed at the High Court since May on a group of bogus workmen who either overcharged the elderly for inferior work or obtained loans for materials they never bought.

Frenchman who took cat on holiday fined £400

From Our Correspondent

Birmingham

A French schoolteacher who brought his pet cat into Britain on holiday with him was fined £400 with £52 costs at Solihull Magistrates' Court yesterday for breaking anti-rabies regulations.

Bernard Chevignard, aged 30, of Dijon, admitted bringing the cat to his holiday home at Shirley, Birmingham. Mrs Lesley Mottram, for the prosecution, said that M Chevignard brought the cat into Britain through the hoverport at

Ramsgate on the back seat of the family car. Neighbourhood Princes Road, Shirley, reported the cat's presence to the police.

Mr Ivan Leon, defending, said M Chevignard had never seen a case of rabies in France and his father-in-law, who is a general practitioner, had never treated a case. There was much emotive talk about rabies in Britain, but that was not the case on the Continent, and M Chevignard was not aware of the severity of his offence.

Prison for men who 'preyed' on old people

From Our Correspondent

Edinburgh

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Police recruiting

Humber police said yesterday that since the new pay rates were announced inquiries for police careers have tripled. The force is 170 below strength.

Milk plan rejected

West Sussex County Council voted yesterday against introducing free school milk for pupils aged seven to 11.

Appeal by PC to High Court

A Southampton policeman, who was convicted for parking his patrol car on the wrong side of the road while chasing suspects is to take his case to the High Court.

The Police Federation has backed Police Constable Stephen Keene so that he can continue his legal battle

BC team sounds out the public's view of programmes

Kenneth Gosling

BBC

BBC is trying, in the words of Mr Mark Bonham Carter, its vice-chairman, to "reach people that it is not so impregnable fortress inaccessible to the public". It has been sending teams and the country, answering questions at public meetings generally polishing its image.

The team usually has a chairman, a television presenter well known to the public. That was the formula at last evening's "meet the programme" session at Bromley, where Miss Sue Lawley, *National Geographic*, presided, shared the platform with Mr Bill Murray, controller of BBC 1, Mr Morgan, head of sport, Mr McNeil, head of news, and Mr Peter Wootton, head of current affairs.

Other specialists in various fields of broadcasting were present and Miss Lawley invited searching questions on such matters as sport on television, old films and the BBC's purchase, for a reported £2,500,000, of the film *The Sound of Music*.

Defending old films, Mr Cotton suggested that if all television companies were told not to show them for a year "the switchboard" would be flooded. He said people liked to watch them now and again, but it was getting increasingly difficult to buy films that could be shown before 9 pm, "family viewing" time, or even after 9 pm.

As for *The Sound of Music*, it would repay its investment; prices were rising all the time. "If you are going to be a powerful broadcasting organization you are going to have to have powerful programming. *The Sound of Music* is one of the finest musical films to be made."

"Hands up," Miss Lawley said, "all those who have seen *The Sound of Music*." A forest of arms shot up. How many would want to see it again? she asked. Half a forest.

But most people were concerned that football matches seemed to go on for far too long and Mr Morgan had to explain that they overran only when extra time was played.

When it was suggested that the BBC should get together with independent television to avoid wasteful competition, Mr Morgan replied that the BBC over the years had had three or four times the audience for sport as independent television.

"which you want us to throw out".

An "ordinary working man" rose to say that he and his family objected to hearing "gory details" in news reports while they were eating their roast pork for Sunday lunch.

Mr Wootton replied that the BBC was conscious of the danger of too greatly depressing an already worried audience and much detail, especially in television news pictures was omitted.

But in the end, it was the broadcaster's responsibility to tell people as fairly and as informatively as possible about the sort of world they lived in.

At the end of the evening a woman rose to ask what the panel members were going to do as a result of the meeting. She was assured that the points raised would be studied.

OVERSEAS

Addis Ababa rejects Ogaden peace plan for demilitarized zone

Khartoum, July 21.—Ethiopia today rejected an Organization of African Unity (OAU) peace plan to resolve its dispute with Somalia over possession of the Ogaden desert.

The proposal, framed by Guinea with strong Nigerian support, is for a ceasefire and demilitarized zone along the border between Ethiopia and Somalia and it was being put to the summit conference now in its final day.

But an Ethiopian delegate said: "We reject it and if the conference accepts it, we reject the conference."

The plan is for a six-mile wide demilitarized zone along the border and an end to Ethiopian air attacks on Somalia while mediation efforts continued.

But the Ethiopian delegates said it took no account of the guerrilla war in the Ogaden which, he said, was being waged by Somali regular troops dressed as nomads.

The peace plan made no mention of the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) which Somalia says has done all the fighting in the Ogaden since its troops withdrew in March.

The Front has sworn to take the Ogaden from Ethiopia with or without Somali assistance. A three-man Front delegation is in Khartoum but has not been allowed to present a brief memorandum about the movement to the conference.

Earlier, Mr Hussein Abdullahi, Cassim, the Somali Minister of Resources, said OAU acceptance of the plan could be the first step towards ending the long dis-

pute over the Ogaden which is Ethiopian-ruled but largely Somali-inhabited.

Ethiopia's attitude dashed hopes of an early breakthrough in the dispute although conference sources said Nigeria, which heads the OAU peace-making committee, was working on alternatives to the idea of a demilitarized zone.

The other main task of the summit is to elect a new administrative secretary-general.

Mr William Eteki Mboumou, in a surprise announcement yesterday, said he would not stand for reelection and Mr Jean Kutecha, the Cameroun foreign minister, said today that following Mr Eteki Mboumou's statement the Cameroun Government would not put forward a candidate for secretary-general.

The favourite for the post is now considered to be Mr Edem Kodjo, the Togo Foreign Minister.

Kassala, Sudan, July 21.—Ethiopia appears to be on the verge of its first big victory in the five-week-old campaign to recapture the strategic Red Sea province of Eritrea.

There are strong indications that Government forces have penetrated the defences of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) in south-western Eritrea and are now threatening the ELF-held town of Tessenet on the Sudanese frontier.

Refugees from Tessenet, which has a population of 30,000, say that civilians are evacuating the town in the face of what appears to be an imminent attack. Reuters.

Fiesta brings earthquake 'ghost town' back to life

From Mario Modiano

Salonica, July 21

The spell that transformed Salonika from a ghost town for four weeks after the last earthquake, is at last breaking. Activity in the city today was brisk and there were signs that more people had come to work than on previous days.

There were a number of reasons. One was last night's brilliant fiesta that defied the full moon scare. There was no earthquake. Another is that tremors which had been feeding the phobia since the June upheaval are rapidly subsiding.

Not least, the presence of Mr Konstantin Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, has been

reassuring. He told me: "The people who are out will be pondering during the weekend. They will say to themselves: Karamanlis is in town, and we are still out. They will feel ashamed and return."

At least 80,000 residents turned up in Aristotle Square in the centre of the city to join last night's festival, causing the worst traffic jams since the night of the earthquake when the people fled.

Today the city centre was busier than it had been for a month. It was expected, provided the week end is calm, that people will start to return on Monday to tackle the mass of problems that they left behind in their flight.

Lengthy list of injuries after detainee's death

Continued from page 1

member 11 on charges of murder, the seventh will face charges of assault.

Mr Matobako died in a Bloemfontein hospital on March 19, eight days after he and four other men were arrested and charged with house-breaking.

The other four men were charged with house-breaking, three with assault and one with murder. Detailed descriptions of Mr Matobako's injuries were noted in official court records. They included the following: private parts swollen, both feet swollen, 11 wounds on the front of the body above the knee, three grazes over the lower rib cage, about 20 wounds over the kidney area and about four grazes that appeared to have been made by the point of the instrument that caused the wounds.

The records also noted that both his eyes were discoloured, both hands were swollen with blue marks over the pulse, the upper lip was swollen and there were marks on both legs.

Announcing the changes in the Port Elizabeth security police, General Mike Geldenhuys, the Commissioner of Police, said they followed a report by a senior police officer into Mr Matobako's death. This report showed that police instructions regarding the safety of detainees "may not have been adhered to."

General Geldenhuys declined to say where Colonel Goosen was being transferred. Two other Port Elizabeth police officers are also being removed from the security branch.

Colonel Goosen was a key police witness at the inquest into the death of Mr Biko, who was detained in Port Elizabeth until immediately before his death.

General Geldenhuys also announced that an additional senior post in the police in Port Elizabeth was being created at South African police headquarters in Pretoria. This officer, who has not yet been named, will be primarily responsible for security matters throughout the country.

The General added that it would be decided whether further steps should be taken after the inquest on Mr Matobako.

Diplomats barred at trial of Briton in East Germany

Berlin, July 21.—A Briton pleaded guilty to an East German court today to charges of trying to smuggle an East German out of the country. He will be sentenced on Monday.

Colin Semple, aged 25, a former Bournemouth waiter who moved to West Berlin in 1974 and became a janitor at a youth hostel, faces up to five years in jail.

Indian minister urged to call off talks in China

From Our Correspondent

Delhi, July 21

Members of the Opposition today asked Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, India's Foreign Minister, to call off talks in China.

The Opposition argued that the visit would look odd in face of construction of the Karakoram highway by China and Pakistan in the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, which India claims as its own.

Mr Vajpayee said that the normalization of relations with China is not at the expense of Moscow.

Books by Western writers vanish from Saigon shops

By Richard Harris

Books by Western writers on sale in Saigon bookshops before 1975 were cleared out soon after the collapse of the Thieu regime if they fell into any "unsatisfactory category."

Writing in the July-August issue of *Index*, Mr Ho Truong An, a journalist who was employed for a time in the office that classified such literature, said that Communist thinking in describing what was approved and what condemned.

In Category A the worst, needless to say, were those writers who held a declared anti-Communist standpoint. Gide, Pasternak, Koestler and Solzhenitsyn, Vietnamese writers included in this category were those who had written about the regime in the north, concentrating on its failings.

No less insidious among Vietnamese novelists were those who wrote about the front-line soldier's love for the girl back home; these were commonly women writers.

Category B meant decadent authors: Henry Miller, Françoise Sagan, D. H. Lawrence, Herman Hesse, among others. Existentialists also fell into this category so Jean Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir were no good either.

heard in secret after British officials were ordered to leave the court for security reasons. Mr Semple was arrested with Heinz Müller, aged 56, of West Berlin on May 12 on an autobahn from West Berlin to West Germany. He is believed to have been trying to smuggle a relative of Herr Müller's to the West.

The British Embassy spokesman said that the barring of British officials from the court today was unjustified. Britain's objections had been raised with the Foreign Ministry in East Berlin. Reuters.

Bolivia in state of siege after coup attempt

La Paz, July 21.—Bolivia's military government today declared a state of siege after an uprising by supporters of the right-wing candidate in this month's abortive presidential elections.

Air Force General Juan Pereda attempted a coup in the city of Santa Cruz, 300 miles east of La Paz, to install himself as an anti-communist President but the move appeared to be failing after appeals by President Hugo Banzer for restoration of peace.

President Banzer sent two Cabinet ministers to Santa Cruz to ask General Pereda to end the bloodless rebellion, in a three-minute speech, in the nation, the President asked for calm in view "of the dangers that exist at this moment."

Although the Government said that the rebellion was confined to Santa Cruz, rebel broadcasts claimed the insurgents controlled all of eastern Bolivia.

The state of siege includes suspension of civil rights and the activities of students, many of them leftists. A 10 pm curfew was imposed and meetings of more than three persons banned.

La Paz stayed calm although tanks and armoured personnel carriers took control of the city.

A group of civilians and military calling itself a "nationalist rebellion" against international communism seized radio stations in Santa Cruz, declared General Pereda the president-elect and ordered that his chief rival, former President Hernán Siles Zuazo, be deported on the grounds that he was leading a communist plot to take over Bolivia.

The crisis followed Wednesday's decision by the National Electoral Court to annul the results of the July 9 election. The count showed General Pereda in the lead but his supporters were accused of widespread fraud and intimidation.

General Pereda himself asked for the results to be annulled. Yesterday he left La Paz for Santa Cruz.

Following the annulment of the July 9 vote, the electoral court said new elections would be held within six months. President Banzer said he would step down from power as scheduled on August 6, and the Government was expected to be handed over to an interim military junta.—UPI, Reuters and AP.

including the Karakoram highway, which he said was being constructed illegally.

Before going to China, Mr Vajpayee is to visit the Soviet Union in September as a gesture meant to re-emphasize India's relationship with Moscow.

If there are any Soviet misgivings over the Indian minister's visit to China, he will try to allay them, though India has told the Soviet Union that the normalization of relations with China is not at the expense of Moscow.

Category C covered the lesser crime of being romantic writers who ignored the miseries of society and preferred to depict a bourgeois, lazy life: Carson McCullers, Somerset Maugham and most nineteenth-century French writers such as Lamartine, Chateaubriand and George Sand.

Category D was supposedly good, by being high-minded or specifically religious, but in fact counter-revolutionary, as opium of the masses? Tagore, Omar Khayyam and all sacred texts such as the New Testament.

Only with Category E was the border crossed into decency. Zola and Balzac held up a mirror to society and were healthy and progressive. But Category F, the "best" on Marxist thought, attained real purity. Alas, the only foreign author listed is Maxim Gorky.

Not the least interesting sidelight on Vietnamese Communist behaviour was Mr Ho's daily experience of working on the grading in the National Library. Every morning on arrival he was subjected to a security search, and during the day was watched over by security teams. Going home in the evening he was again subjected to a body search to make sure he had stolen none of the sinful books.

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Category E was supposedly good, by being high-minded or specifically religious, but in fact counter-revolutionary, as opium of the masses? Tagore, Omar Khayyam and all sacred texts such as the New Testament.



World dream: Mrs Lillian Carter, President Carter's mother, received the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's Ceres Medal yesterday for her interest and work for the world's poor. Mr Edouard

Saouma, FAO director-general (right), said Mrs Carter shared the FAO's dream of a world free from hunger. She had shown that neither age nor origin was a barrier to caring for the rural, the impoverished and the under-

nourished. Mrs Carter, who attended the medal ceremony in Rome with Mr Richard Gardner, the American Ambassador to Italy (left), said that helping the poor was an obligation which nobody was free to put aside.

Mr Carter plans no more reprisals over Soviet dissident trials

From David Cross

Washington, July 21

Denying that his Administration has launched a vendetta against the Soviet Government over its disregard for human rights, President Carter has said that there will be no more American reprisals in the near future.

At a televised press conference here last night—his first during the evening peak viewing period—he said he had taken "all the action that I intend to take for the time being." He added: "I have not embarked on a vendetta against the Soviet Union. I know that we cannot interfere with the internal affairs of the Soviet Union."

On an equally conciliatory note, Mr Carter said he wanted a "better relationship" with Moscow. Pointing out that negotiations for a new strategic arms limitation agreement were continuing, he said he "even" wanted to enhance trade with Russia.

"We have expressed our displeasure (at the recent Soviet trials of dissidents) I think in a very moderate way," he remarked.

Asked whether he favoured an American boycott of the next Olympic Games, to be held in Moscow, he said that the decision would be taken by the United States Olympic

committee. He, personally, hoped that American athletes would be able to participate.

The press conference was one of the toughest he has been subjected to since taking office 18 months ago. It took place only a few hours after Mr Peter Bourne, the President's chief adviser on health and drug abuse, resigned in the midst of a damaging controversy over the writing of a drug prescription for a White House colleague.

His face tense as he entered the press conference, Mr Carter said he had one brief comment to make before answering questions: "Dr Peter Bourne, out of consideration for my Administration, has submitted his resignation this afternoon which I have accepted with respect."

Describing the British-born psychiatrist as a "close friend of mine and my family" and an able and dedicated public servant, he said he would not answer questions about the case because it was still the subject of (police) investigations.

However, two reporters challenged this edict. Mr Daniel Schorr, a former investigative reporter for the CBS television network, asked whether Dr Bourne had given any prescriptions to members of the Carter

family. "Dr Bourne has never given me any treatment of any kind," the President replied.

"None of those substances went to you?" Mr Schorr inquired. "No sir," the President snapped, moving promptly to the next question.

Later in the proceedings a magazine about drugs, tried to associate Dr Bourne with the spraying of Mexican marijuana with toxic paraquat. Mr Carter responded in a roundabout way to the question, avoiding any mention of Dr Bourne.

The President was also asked about the controversial recent comment by Mr Andrew Young, the American representative at the United Nations, about there being "hundreds, perhaps thousands" of political prisoners in the United States. Describing the statement as unfortunate and embarrassing, Mr Carter said he thought Mr Young would be more careful in future.

Mr Young was very valuable to his country, Mr Carter said. He has opened up new areas of communications, mutual trust and cooperation among the nations of Africa, in particular. The recent breakthrough on Namibian independence, for example, might never have come about without Mr Young.

In brief

Bantustan policy suffers setback

Johannesburg, July 21

South Africa's Bantustan policy suffered a setback today when the opposition party in the tiny Venda homeland won a sweeping victory in pre-independence elections, taking 31 of the 42 contested seats in the legislative assembly.

Venda, in the north-east of Transvaal, was expected to opt for independent status after the elections, following the example of Transkei and Bophuthatswana. But Mr Baldwin Mdueni, leader of the opposition party, said the party would support the independence of the Transvaal.

According to a report in *the Rand Daily Mail*, the United African National Council (UANC) and the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) parties have already formed committees to study the abolition of colonial place names.

Mr Salisbury said: "Lord Salisbury has nothing to do with our country. Harare is the name for Salisbury and it has already been used. Harare is the current name of one of the city's African townships."

The spokesman said the majority of the people wanted the country to have nothing to do with the "oppressive regime" they will have got rid of. Nothing symbolic of imperialism will be retained.

Mr Salisbury said Rhodesia's second city, will retain its name, which is Sidiabete for "Place of killing."

What will they name the world-famous Victoria Falls? The local name is Mosi-oa-Tunya (the smoke that thunders). It goes without saying that such public holidays as Rhodes and

Las Vegas jackpot

Las Vegas, July 21.—Mrs Laura O'Neill, aged 52, of Miami, won \$250,000 (£130,000) on a fruit machine, said to be a world record, after playing it for only 10 minutes.

Press de-nationalized

Lima, July 21.—The Peruvian Government has returned to private ownership 174 of its seven daily newspapers, which were nationalized in 1974.

Hunting ban lifted

Dar es Salaam, July 21.—Tanzania today begins six months of safaris in its game parks. The government has lifted a six-month ban on hunting after improved conservation measures and there is a considerable increase in wildlife which now needs to be culled.

Zimbabwe will remove all signs of 'colonial' Rhodesia

From Frederick Cleary

Salisbury, July 21

All evidence of Rhodesia's white colonial past will disappear when this country becomes Zimbabwe after independence.

Salisbury will be called Harare and the towns of Harare, Fort Victoria and even the famous Victoria Falls will be given "appropriate" African names.

The famous statue of Cecil John Rhodes, the country's founder, outside the Prime Minister's office in Jameson Avenue will be pulled down. Cecil Square will be renamed, as will dozens of other streets and avenues which contributed to Rhodesia's 88-year-old history.

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Refugee tell of Chinese killed by Cambodians

Bangkok, July 21.—Cambodia has executed 30 Chinese merchants, triggering a migration of Chinese towards the Thai and Vietnamese borders, according to a refugee recently arrived in Thailand.

Mr Soi, a Chinese merchant in Battambang, said the 30 were executed for beating three Khmer soldiers to death.

Our Geneva Correspondent writes: The United Nations human rights division today issued Cambodia's reply to British accusations of genocide. It said Cambodian leaders were too busy with defence and national construction to go to the United Nations to "reveal in its true light the infamous and perfidious nature of the British Government."

Waiting for China's door to open

From Jean-Pierre Gallois

Agence France-Presse

Dong Dang, July 21

Waiting in a makeshift camp on the Sino-Vietnamese border for permission to enter China are 2,500 Hoa people (Vietnamese of Chinese origin), with an estimated two thirds of them children.

The insecurity and uncertainty they are faced with was obvious to a group of foreign journalists who yesterday visited Kienmang Zero, the neutral zone separating the Vietnamese border post of Dong Dang from the Chinese one at Quang Tai.

Hundreds of families who have decided to leave Vietnam because they feel threatened by the possibility of a war between China and Vietnam are now crowded into low huts made of cloth and branches.

Tucked between a hill and a lake, the straight fenced road running the 400 yards between the two border posts is lined with men and women, old people and children, waiting for the "door to open."

Half-clothed babies lie asleep on the ground undisturbed by the acid wood smoke from fires built under these pathetic shelters.

As the region is quite hilly the heat is unbearable, but drizzle soaks the incongruous piles of luggage.

This situation is the result of a Chinese decision of July 17 forbidding anyone not possessing an "official document" (a kind of personal passport) from the Chinese embassy in Hanoi from entering China.

Lieutenant Vi The Sinh, the political commissar at Dong Dang border post, explained:

Before that, Peking had accepted more than 20,000 Hoa, although China had been expressing its reservations since May. Lieutenant Sinh said. Most of that number did not have their papers in order.

Those in the process of leaving, and who did not know of the new regulations, have been kept outside the Chinese gate since July 12.

"They abandoned their jobs, sold their possessions and now

Opposition's doubt on Begin health

From Michael Knipe

Jerusalem, July 21

The Israeli Prime Minister's doctor found it necessary to defend his patient today after a spate of personal attacks from opposition Labour Party leaders suggesting that Mr Menachem Begin might be mentally unbalanced because of medication.

Dr Basil Lewis said that Mr Begin took no drugs other than those used for headaches. It was therefore "unreasonable to say that he is under the influence of drugs which affect his capabilities and his state of mind". The Prime Minister, he maintained, was in better health now than he had been for 18 months.

The Labour Party's allegations were made at a meeting of senior officials after Mr Begin's disclosure in picturesque language that he would prevent members of the opposition meeting Arab leaders—if necessary by denying them visas.

Mrs Golda Meir, the former Prime Minister, who these days usually abstains from the political fray, joined in the criticism, saying that in the past week the Prime Minister had not appeared to be in full control of his senses.

The immediate effect of the Labour Party's attacks has been to rally the ruling Likud coalition around their leader, Mr Simcha Ehrlich, the Minister of Finance, for instance, publicly expressed shock at "the wild attacks."

Mr Begin, who appears to be in ebullient form these days and thoroughly enjoying the political fracas, told members of the Knesset last night that the Arabs were more prepared to deal with Labour Party leaders simply because the Labour Party was willing to cede more.

The Prime Minister conceded that President Sadat preferred Mr Weizman, the Defence Minister, to himself. "Ezer is a nice, likeable guy," he explained.

Cairo, July 21.—Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, will visit Egypt on August 3 at the start of a four-country Middle East tour to try to arrange further talks between Egypt and Israel, well informed sources said today.

Mr Vance will also visit Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Israel. Reuters.

Yogurt for chess champion unpalatable to challenger

Baguio, Philippines, July 21.—Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world chess champion, today rejected as ridiculous a challenge by Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, that a yogurt sent to the table in mid-match could have been a coded message.

The Soviet delegation chief, Viktor Baturinsky, even implied that the Korchnoi camp could just as easily price signals with binoculars, signals which the Soviet defector's delegation leader, Ibra Levent, watched last night's drawn game.

Mr Baturinsky said that Karpov, a whole thing in good humour.

He said that Karpov should go for a draw while still mango. "I am not a chess player," he said, "I am a chess player."

The Soviet delegation replied with a note to the referee. The tone of the Soviet note was businesslike. "Mr Baturinsky said that Karpov, a whole thing in good humour."

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A grim day in the life of a Soviet soldier

From Patricia Clough

Bonn, July 21

A grim picture of the life of a young Soviet conscript systematically humiliated, beaten up, robbed and hungry by their more senior comrades is painted by former conscript in the *West German* news magazine *Der Spiegel*.

For the first half of the two-year military service conscripts are subjected "conditions of real slavery," he says. In the second, impose the same brutality others.

[illegible]

All about iris

100



"I don't think that it is best to let
 the wines to those of the sa-
 rearea, such as the Loire, in
 Carlonia.
 "I do not possess a
 enough jug for three bot-
 the special type, with im-
 ce container, for "bowle".
 so expensive here that any
 solidifying in Germany woi
 make a wise investment.
 buying one), then use one bot-
 of still wine to half of spa-
 rading. Garnish with salt
 of orange-twist, the salt
 is good to release a
 pills in the skin of the fruit
 and cucumber, plus borage.
 you can get it.
 Pamela Vandye Pri

Drink

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

Travel

Island of delights

It is the dentist's chair, a plinth in the stern of a boat, it has all the familiar back and head rest adjustable, a bar for to push against. But action is, not some it is, our quarry is big fish from the Indian

re five miles off the coast of Mauritius. Our upper V, has five thick lines trailing behind, it has a lure that looks small white octopus, tangles of plastic, the vicious hook. We are any, but according to us we might fish for

entist's chair is for the Gen's chair, on a 1,000lb and it might take more of playing to land monster. The local fish are hopeful as we set will fish for tunny, and set our hunting crabs by showing off yellow fin tunny being outside the Black

ing club. The ref is powerful, cap-24 knots from its twin marine engines. We way from the quay, a gap in the coral reef, our eyes peeled for his is the science of fishing. Sea birds circle the water means one, fish near the surface, small fry that gulls Indian Ocean squint, up down and pull a sea. But the birds' impetuous from the fish feed on smaller, big game fishermen

ser for the birds and two of the birds are alive with reels. The crew are simply from the feel whether we have something big. In my was nothing spectacled for the panoply

tonist's chair, rather as two-sided plastic either side. Holding tight I grabbed my someone strapped a leather protector, ke a sporan with a id the base of the rod. I was playing the

it was fighting. My began to ache. Just if the fish got away, I And then suddenly he crew was hooking I had my yellow fin I caught three tunny bonito that afternoon,

and we returned to Black River in darkness after nearly six hours at sea. The cost: 150 rupees an hour for a minimum of six hours. With six rods to share, the cost that works out at about £13 per person for the trip.

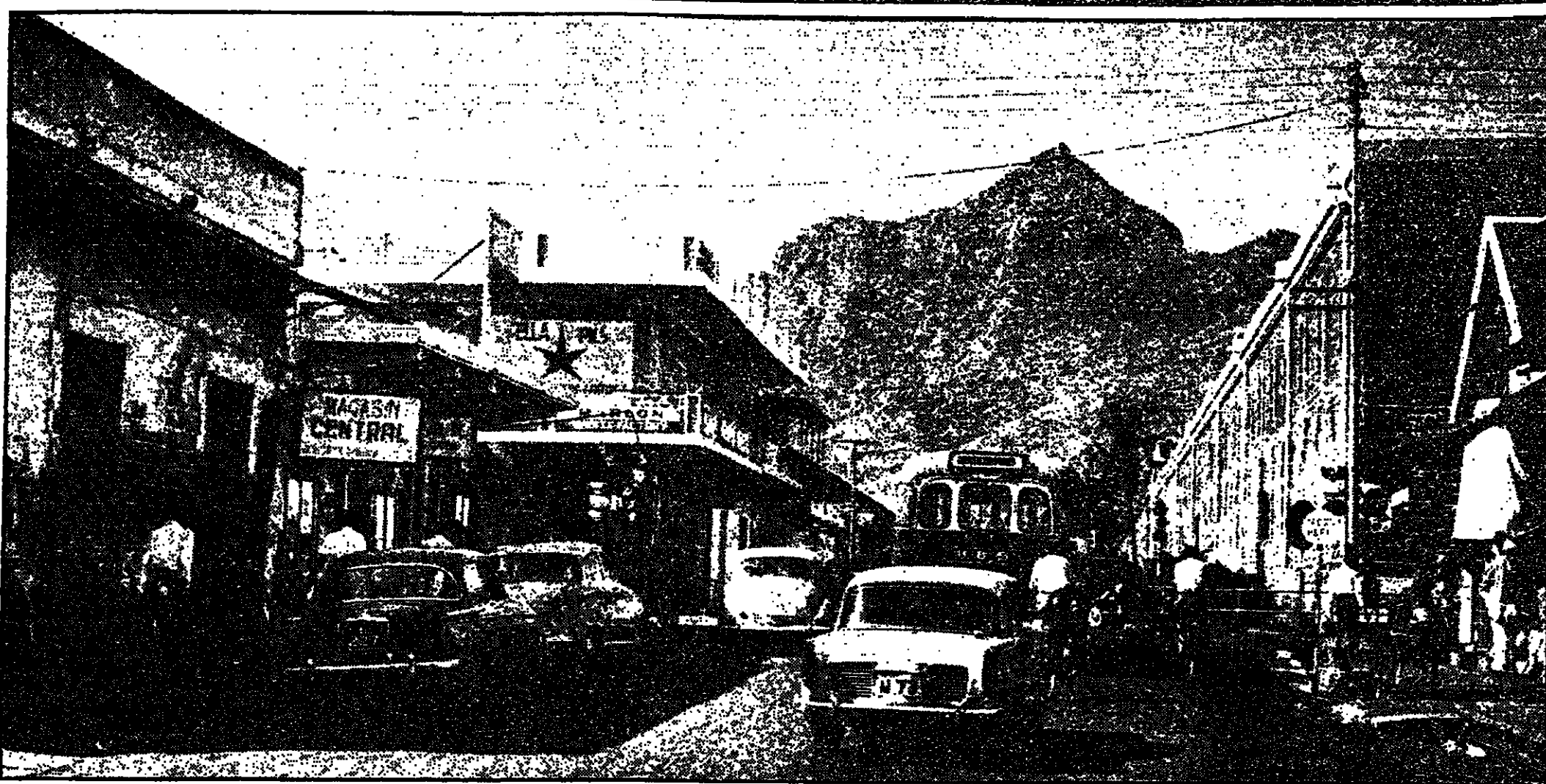
Mauritius, being an island (720 square miles) in the Indian Ocean and a thousand miles from the more familiar holiday archipelago of the Seychelles, treats the sea as an extension of the land. Fish is on every menu: lobster, langoustine, oysters, clams, prawns, octopus as well as the fish of the reef. At Le Morne Brabant on the south-west coast a freshly caught captain was charcoal-grilled for us on the beach.

It is not difficult to eat hugely and well. Thanks to the mixture of races that make up the Mauritius population of 900,000 — Indian, Chinese, Creole, French and British — there is extensive variety in the cooking. One of the best meals I sampled was at Villars Caroline on the east coast where the proprietor's wife specializes in Creole cooking with its extensive use of onion, tomato, garlic and ginger.

Here one eats by the sea, indeed at most hotels it is difficult not to, and for tourists determined to soak up the sun I find it hard to imagine being seduced away from the water. I arrived at the Moorish-style Saint Geran Hotel on the north-west of the island exhausted after my 18-hour journey from Heathrow. My ground floor room opened on to a patio, and thence on to grass leading down to the sea not 10 yards away. The best recuperation from the flight was obvious, and I swam for half an hour. The hotel swimming pool seemed superfluous. Most hotels offer water skiing, skuba diving, sailing, pedalos and the like. The Mauritian coastline, but for a couple of places, is protected by a coral reef. No man-eating sharks; just beware of sea urchins and the pinpricks of coral.

Racine the coast, the sun-drenched, the sea is emphasized, particularly at Grand Baie. The contrast of white sand, with the occasional outcrop of black basalt, plus palms, an aquamarine sea and a blue sky seems almost artificial. More than once I expected Escher Williams to be by on water skis and Dorothy Lamour in sarong to slope across the sand. Even the hibiscus was flowering on cue.

Mauritius is a large enough island to have its own microclimates. To the north and extreme south east is dry with little rain, the occasional summer drought. In the centre and south tropical downpours



Port Louis, Mauritius: "Tropical French colonial, if rundown houses."

among the mountains are not uncommon and vegetation is lush. Much of the island is under intensive cultivation. Sugar cane in the lowlands, tea higher up, with vegetables of all kinds in between.

Life centres on Port Louis on the east coast, a capital that is circled on three sides by hills. Looking down from the Citadel, built by the British, it reminded the three people I was with of three totally different places. The tropical French colonial, if rundown, houses recalled Haiti to one; the timbered Protestant church spelt out Peyton Place to the second; and the racetrack almost in the town centre recalled to the third Hong-kong's Happy Valley.

We visited the early morning market — a Smithfield, Covent Garden, Spiralfeld, and Billingsgate all in one. The variety of the produce, the range of the smells, the meeting of the races are not easily forgotten. French is the language of the island, which is just one more of its curiosities. It was a British colony for more than a century and a half, but had been French before and the French influence was allowed to remain.

But Britishness is everywhere from the old-fashioned road signs to the statue of Queen Victoria; the devotion to British football with one of the 10 daily newspapers giving half its sports page to the FA Cup semi-final. Cars drive on the left, which means British cars predominate. But they are expensive: the cheapest Mini costs about £4,850 to put on the Mauritian roads.

But for tourists transport is cheap. I used a taxi to cross the island and kept it waiting for four hours between calls and yet the total cost was only £11. Car hire is readily available, though roads are mainly poor. I heard many Mauritians lament the decision in the early 1960s to close the island's railway system.

For me the only drawback to visiting Mauritius on holiday is the time taken in getting there and back. But travel is soon forgotten if one stays for a fortnight. Air Mauritius flies to British Airways each fly in and out once a week. A two-week package, flying by British Airways, with a sea view room and half board at the Saint Geran Hotel is offered by Rankin Kuhn £650.

Ion Trewin

Travel extra
Languedoc-Roussillon

"Not enough British come here, and they don't drink enough of our wine", the man from Perpignan said. He was making two separate points. He was referring, first, to how slow the British have been in appreciating the benefits of Languedoc-Roussillon as a holiday area. A banana-shaped wedge on the Mediterranean, stretching from the Spanish border to the Camargue, Languedoc-Roussillon has more than 100 miles of coastline, much of it with excellent beaches, and an interior of great variety, beauty, charm, and historical interest.

One of General de Gaulle's grand designs has resulted, over the past dozen years, in a massive and expensive develop-

ment of the coast for tourist purposes, concentrating on six resort complexes, from Port Camargue and La Grande Motte (with its already famous pyramid/honeycomb architecture) at the eastern end, to Saint Cyprien only a few miles from Spain. Although inevitably lacking some of the atmosphere of the older holiday areas, the new resorts benefit greatly from careful planning and the integration of facilities. The developments are particularly strong on providing sporting facilities for all levels of expertise.

It is perhaps unfair to both regions to continue joining Languedoc and Roussillon into a hyphenated Siamese-twin name. The two, and their inhabitants, are distinct. Roussillon is Catalan, its history, culture and gastronomy owing almost as much to Barcelona as to France. Perpignan was once the seat of the Kings of Majorca. Catalan is the mother tongue of a large proportion of the people of Roussillon, is still in everyday use, and at present is the subject of increasing interest and study.

Languedoc, in contrast, is unmistakably French. For the British, above all, Languedoc-Roussillon offers that rare

French commodity, reasonable prices. The cost of accommodation and food, whether on the coast or in the interior, in hotels or camping, and in virtually all types of restaurant, is significantly cheaper than the equivalent not far away on the Riviera or in Provence.

Some of the obstacles to a more active British presence in Languedoc-Roussillon have been removed. For the traveller by air, it is no longer necessary to fly first to Paris and then have a boring wait for a connexion; or to suffer a long and tiring journey from Marseilles. Dan-Air have now started direct (1 hour) scheduled services between London and Perpignan, and London and Montpellier. They also do a combined fly/drive scheme to those towns. For the motorist, it is now possible to get there all the way by a new motorway linked to the Autoroute du Sud.

The point the man from Perpignan was making about the lack of British knowledge and consumption of the wines of the region is equally valid, and easy to understand. Some of the wines of Roussillon have recently been honoured with an upgrading of their classification from V.D.Q.S. to Appellation d'origine contrôlée (A.O.C.). Côtes du Roussillon and Côtes du Roussillon Villages, branny, flavoursome reds, are only occasionally seen on the shelves of British wine merchants, whilst much space on those shelves is occupied by over-priced overrated wines from better-known regions, or by low-priced rubbish.

To penetrate the British market virtually from scratch is made almost impossible by our system of duty, which particularly penalizes good table wines at the cheaper, but not dirt-cheap, end of the price range. The excellent sweet aperitif and dessert wines of both Languedoc and Roussillon (such as the astonishingly perfumed Muscat de Rivesaltes) would also, regrettably, suffer similar price difficulties. Like the regions themselves, the wines of Languedoc-Roussillon deserve to be better known here than they are.

Information on Languedoc-Roussillon can be obtained from the French National Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, London, W.1.

Marcel Berlins

Chess

Greenblatt gambit

the excitement and aroused by the current chess championship between Bobby Fischer and Anatoly Karpov, it is impossible of us who were at the previous match in Iceland between Fischer and Spassky to forget somewhere in Pasadena, exiled former world

Bobby Fischer is the rust of time to his marvellous gifts. I'd almost like to put back and agree to all demands, if only he say chess again. Almost, quite, since I am convinced that it is the best of the match would have meant that he would have had to match by a margin of 11.

quite a number of even this stipulation, or grossly favours the latter, is evident from an in the July issue of Echecs written by How far he is prepared to go to favour Fischer, Karpov is shown extraordinary remark, to at that even if Karpov current match he considered a genuine champion. The bias in of Fischer, and against both appear were "mais même s'il est ur, Karpov continuera e que le champion du de la FIDE, car n'ayant battu Fischer sur ler, il ne peut être re comme champion ide de fait."

comme goes even further, us that there are many ts for Fischer's L. Unfortunately the se he does offer happens e that rests on disputed y. For he goes on to le fait d'imposer que le ger doit gagner avec points d'avance, fut la d'Emmanuel Lasker a 1910, contre Karl rter, exigua que le ent stipule cette clause."

certainty with which te speaks may be due to hidden knowledge of amous Lasker-Alekhine which has not been to the rest of us. I had thought that the use of opinion was the reverse and that world champion (then of Lasker, had made no stipulation.

at many people ask me, cher doing nowadays? Is aving chess? Yes, in a But, dissatisfied with n opposition, he is choos- is opponents (over the eat is) from amongst computers. His favourite

adversary is a computer called "Greenblatt".

Like most chess computers Greenblatt soon loses its head and panics whenever its King is attacked. Moreover, in the following game where Fischer employs an old-fashioned line in the King's Gambit, his grassy rival ignores the best line, which goes right back to Bilguer. Perhaps Greenblatt is a poor computer and cannot afford to buy the Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings. My advice to it (or him) is that it should save up whatever stipend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology grants him and buy a decent book on the openings.

White: Fischer Black: Greenblatt King's Gambit accepted.

1 P-K4, P-K4 2 B-B4, P-Q4 3 P-B4, Q-Q4 4 N-K3, P-K3 5 N-K3, B-Q4 6 K-K3, O-O 7 O-O, K-K3

Against Blackburne in the great Hastings tournament of 1895 Pillsbury played here 7... B-K4; but got the worse game after 8, Q-P-B, P-B3; 9, B-B4, Q-Q4; 10, N-Q4, K-K4; 11, B-K4.

8 K-K4, B-Q3 9 P-Q4, P-KK4. This meets with a stunning rejoinder: best not to meddle with the pawns in front of the King and to continue development with B-KK5.

At any rate, the computer is not without a desperate ingenuity. After 11... B-K2; 12, K-B2 is murderous.

13 R-B2, B-P3 14 B-P3, Q-K2 15 R-B2, Q-K2 16 R-B2, Q-K2 17 Q-B4, K-R3 18 R-B2, Q-K2 19 R-Q2, K-N2 20 R-KK5, R-KK5 21 Q-R6 mate.

Not liking the threatened B-R6.

Greenblatt knows that his King is in danger but does not know much more than that. By now, however, he must be punch-drunk.

Harry Golombek

Bridge

Tight corners

Most mistakes are made early in the play. The declarer who has counted his tricks and found that he needs one more than he had bargained for has usually to choose between stealing a trick when he is first on lead or executing a successful squeeze later in the game. Unless there has been opposition bidding he has no clue to the opponent on whom pressure can be applied.

When I was writing about the play of false cards and the deliberate refusal of a trick, I did not stress sufficiently that the most important trick to be declined is almost invariably one which calls for the ace of a suit which the declarer has not bid. From his way of attacking the play, his train of thought must be deduced by the defender who tries to give declarer a false picture of the distributions or to persuade him to misjudge the position of a key card.

In the following deal the defender on lead was careful to play a neutral card, and the declarer was left with a final guess because he had no means of deducing which of two suits would produce the crucial twelfth trick.

Game all; dealer East:

♠ A Q 10 5
♥ K 3
♦ A Q 8 7 3
♣ A 10 4
♠ A Q 10 4
♥ K 3
♦ A Q 8 7 3
♣ A 10 4

East South West North
No. of Clubs No. of Clubs
No. of Clubs No. of Clubs

West opened the ♠3, and declarer with eleven sure tricks needed to find either the ♣A with East or the ♠K with West. Playing the safest way, South won the ♠3 in dummy and immediately led the ♠8. East did not cover and when South's ♠K appeared West followed with the ♠4 without the slightest pause. He could see that if declarer did not hold both the ♠Q and the ♠J, he would take the winning club finesse unless he believed that East held the ♠A. South proceeded to take his winning hearts and spades, discarding three clubs on the hearts. After the last round of spades, the three-card ending was as follows:

♠ 7
♥ A Q
♦ A 10
♣ A 10 4

East discarded his ♠J on the last spade, and this act of fore-

sight convinced the declarer that he would find East with the ♠A. So he led the ♣7 from dummy and lost two tricks to West who had bared his ♠K.

An unusual defence which had not been seen for several years was employed by East in the next deal. "There is no new thing under the sun", and it is surprising that defenders not use their brain's more frequently to spring a surprise upon an innocent declarer in the following way.

North South game; dealer South:

♠ A Q 10 4
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ A 3
♣ A 7
♠ A Q 10 4
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ A 3
♣ A 7

West led the ♠J, and East won two club tricks before pausing to reflect on his next lead. An unthinking defender automatically returns a low diamond at this point, taken by South who finesesses the ♠K. On lead again with the ♠K, East tries a second diamond won again by South who enters dummy with the ♠A and finesesses the ♠Q. Whether or not East covers, the ♠Q declarer takes the remainder, and the only question is: "Did East do the best that could be done to break the contract by switching to a diamond after he had won the second club?"

In the relatively hopeless position in which he found himself, where the declarer was almost certain to finesse against both the kings, East's only chance lay in persuading South not to finesse against the ♠K. Instead, therefore, of leading a diamond or a trump East led his ♠7, in order to suggest that West held the ♠K and to invite a spade return for a ruff. If West secured the lead, Declarer was now convinced that the spade finesse was favourable and that he could not risk the heart finesse; so he played the ♠A followed by a small heart and later lost a trick to the unguarded ♠K.

Although the play of the small card from a doubleton king is rarely a success, it was a superior lead in this instance to a diamond because by opening the bidding South had marked himself with a minimum of 12 points, and since his top spade was the ♠J, his other honours must be the ♠A K and the ♠A.

Edward Mayer



Oh, to be in England...

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The Great British Countryside
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Weekend

Sheila Black

SHOP AROUND

■ Safety for children in the sea or swimming pool is easy with a new swim belt from Sweden. Smaller, simpler and rather more "natural" than most of the chest or arm varieties, this belt has a gentle spring-clamp waist that stays put, needs no adjusting and is free of straps or buckles. Floating chambers at each end of the girdle are of blow-moulded polythene, lightweight, strong and puncture proof.

Children's arms and legs are thus free to use properly and the buoyant anchoring of the child at its middle encourages the right swimming position, lying along the water's surface or as close to the surface as possible. The Rollo Swim-Belt is made in Sweden and marketed here by J. P. Lennard, 15 Forum Drive, Rugby CB21 1NT, or Newitt, 81 Goodramgate, York YO2 1LU—write for stockists.

There are two sizes in most shops, costing £2.50 and £3 for children up to about 11 years old. To go with the belt in practice sessions, try a neat, small Rollo Kickboard, a sort of miniature raft with a band grip underneath it so that the child can keep head and shoulders afloat with arms outstretched to hold the raft while mastering the kicking actions.

Britax, the car and other safety belts firm has brought out a rather good, polystyrene cushioned seat shape for the back seats. Easily removed to leave a back-seat belt for adults, the Plavase is a kind of chair with a play-tray and is modelled on equipment already supplied in Germany. For children from four to 10 years, weighing 40lb to 80lb. No sharp edges, a wipe-clean surface and a price of about £18.95, combine to make a good product. Britax is at Chertsey Road, Byfleet, Surrey KT14 7AW. Coming during August, to Halfords, Boxt, Woolworth, etc.

Sterling Health is making a cabinet with sliding copper mirrors and a really strong, lockable section for medicines at one end. Detachable shelves vary the internal layout, the dimensions are 13 1/2 in by 22 1/2 in by 5 1/2 in, it is in white-painted wood with melamine finish where you want to wipe clean. A dark wood locking section adds a little smartness and the price of £9.50 is rather pleasing. Send a cheque, with full name and address on the back of it, to Sterling Health, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4PH.



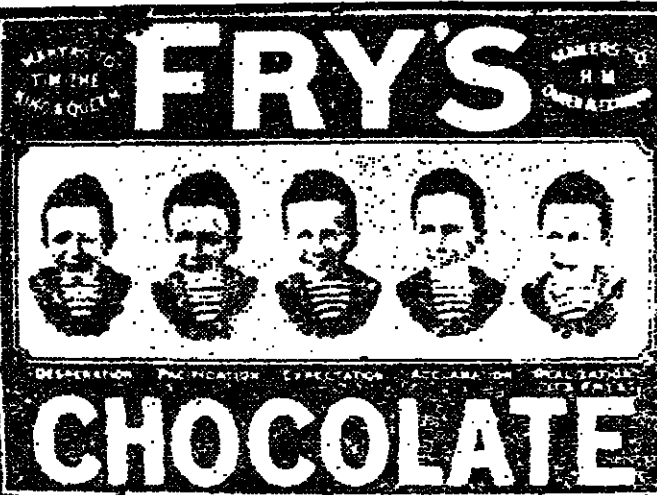
■ "Street Jewellery" is the name of a book about advertising signs, the enamel variety which is still a fashion fad for interior decoration after some years of revival. Street Jewellery is by Christopher Baglee and Andrew Morley, who feel so strongly about preserving enamel signs that they have toured Britain for several years to buy, rescue, restore and eventually document these signs of the past and will be touring their exhibition of same through 1978 and 1979.

Their book has a reproduction mini-sign on the cover to display the title as it should look. A treatise on the history, design, manufacturing techniques and collecting of these signs, together with data on how to restore and conserve them, is good value for enthusiasts at £3.95. If not at your bookshop, contact the publisher, New Cavendish Books, 11 New Fetter Lane, London, EC4; or one of the authors, Baglee, at Badge Group Design, 10 Summerhill Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 6EB (Newcastle 2255) for details of the touring exhibition. Interestingly, there are still about four firms still making such signs.

■ As a terrible photographer from way back, I keep trying out foolproof cameras. And I keep getting poor results, with cut-off heads, figures to the side of the picture and that kind of thing. Action shots of skateboarding family with still instantanics were slightly better than I had expected, with some even in focus and others clear, unblurred by movement. At last, I have made it. Or almost. The Kodak Ektra is helping me to produce some fairly creditable results. The hinged cover on one side opens out to be a holding handle that helps me keep the camera firm.

Loaded with sensitive Kodacolor 400 film, it can actually "freeze" movement for long enough to get a sharply defined

skateboarder and the Ektra 22 is rather good on photography in dark or poor weather—of which we have had enough to allow the camera a good testing period. Guaranteed for three years and with a carrying, thin yet strong, wrist-bracelet, it is a good addition to a standard range. Prices start at about £18. And do try the new Kodacolor 400 film. If near Harrow and Wealdstone, go to the Kodak museum in Headstone Drive, Wealdstone. Leave the station by Platform One, turn right, right again into Princes Drive then left at a T-junction into Headstone Drive. See the first camera and a lot of other photographic antiquities on Monday to Friday from 9.30 to 4.30. Further details from 01-427 4380, extension 76.



■ Dodo designs markets small and large enamel signs, scenes and decorations. They also have tasteful little ovals with a sepia look and amusing little drawings that are almost Victorian in style to identify the bathroom; WC, kitchen, dining room, playroom, garage, etc. You can even label the door of the "Broom" or "Pig Sty", but will probably buy, as so many others do, "Dog House". Thermometers on enamel advertisements are rather charming, kitchen canisters are gaudy and little collectors' tins are humorous or quaint. Dodos are in many, many gift shops and department stores. Get local stockists from Dodo Designs, 1 Warwick Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (TV 39155).

For originals and reproductions, Dodo Designs has a shop at 185 Westbourne Grove, London, W2 and it is always a fascinating place to visit. If you find no local stockist, Dodo will sometimes mail from Tunbridge Wells. They have been going from enamel strength to enamel strength for about 12 years now.

■ School holidays and time for children of all ages to start making some of their Christmas presents. Every year it is possible to be more enterprising. Leisure Crafts and the Home Made Series books are 50p each at craft shops, most W. I. Smiths and other bookshops. They really do cover a lot, ground efficiently. Soaps will fascinate young and old and the book tells you how to see mould, carve flower bars, mal camomile milk soap for tendrils, skins and fashion soap strawberries. Children tend to over scent, which is not bad if on stores the soap in warm cupboards, opening the door periodically to scent the house. Nylon flowers, paper cut woolly toys with furry pile, co. dollies, paper chains, cosmetic scents and fragrances, smoke foods or soft cheeses are a possibilities for present givers. Though the food lines must be made nearer the time. For co. sumers of their wares, in breads, drinks and herbs. pots. The books are attractively illustrated, square paperback with stiff covers. Publish. by Search Press, 2-10 Place, London SW6 5PT (01-8 6261).

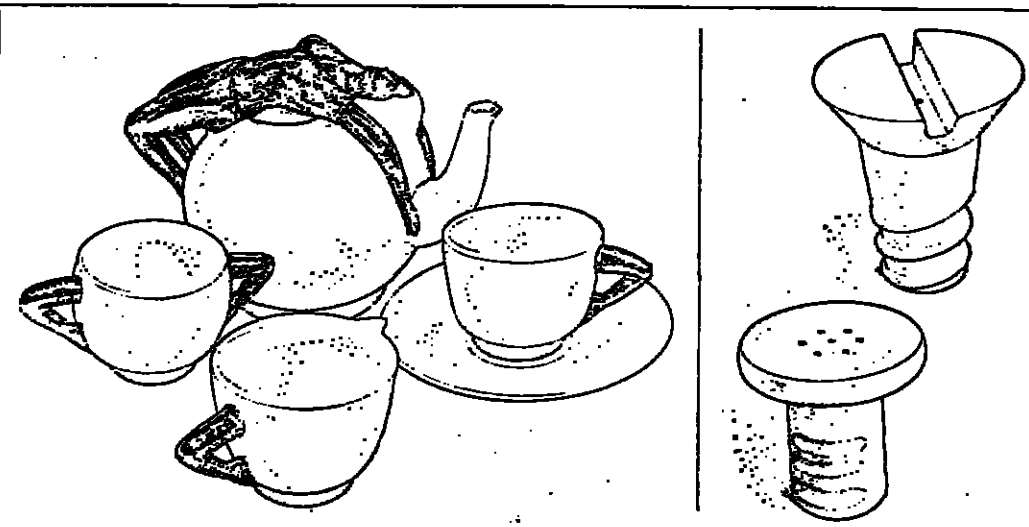
■ Nice Irma's Floating Carp. The words conjure up an amiable but pleasant madman rather than a shop at 46 Good Street, near the tube station. Mind you, the shop is a unexpectedly and temptingly oriental, in a peaceful relaxed way despite the color and comforts. There is nothing about the place but me that is exotic. The fabrics are designed and dyed exclusive for Dan and Della Birch, who run the place and mix nice exotica with taste and function. I find their fabrics, bedspreads and patchwork velvets good alike the fact that they can be bought by the metre (or by the yard) to make up anything you fancy.

Little soapstone boxes with mother-of-pearl and set precious stones or mineral start as low as 5s. Kalamkari wall hangings, which look like batik but are coloured with buffalo dyes, are about £3, measuring 32 by 12 inches. There are pieces of mirrored embroidery from about 5s. Single and double bedspreads of a design and colour, soft, a really very crease-resistant, in lovely colours at about £1 and £12. Rather incredible everything is machine-washed. A rare attribute in Eastern print and fabrics but one which I think is unique upon the United Kingdom market. I have managed to get wide, sacrificing the colours and in Even the inexpensive, but loomed, block-printed, cotton bedspreads, of which there is a huge selection, can be washed by machine—prices are from about £4.50 for single beds, £6.50 for double.

The cushions are gorge and really not too costly. staid or less, athletic it might try special metal tray to convert a floor and a cushion into a chair (more less). Large floor cushions about 37 inches square, from £9.50. A velvet one is but there are all sizes with scatter cushions at £4 a little less. There are 25 pils to choose from, but the velvet is really luxurious. Velvet is £2.95 the yard (ab 29 inches wide). Extra cotton about £1.25 per yard.

Carry your purchases away a superb carpet bag at which is a joy. Or arrange postal selling, discussing page and cover, with N. Irma's on 01-580 6921.

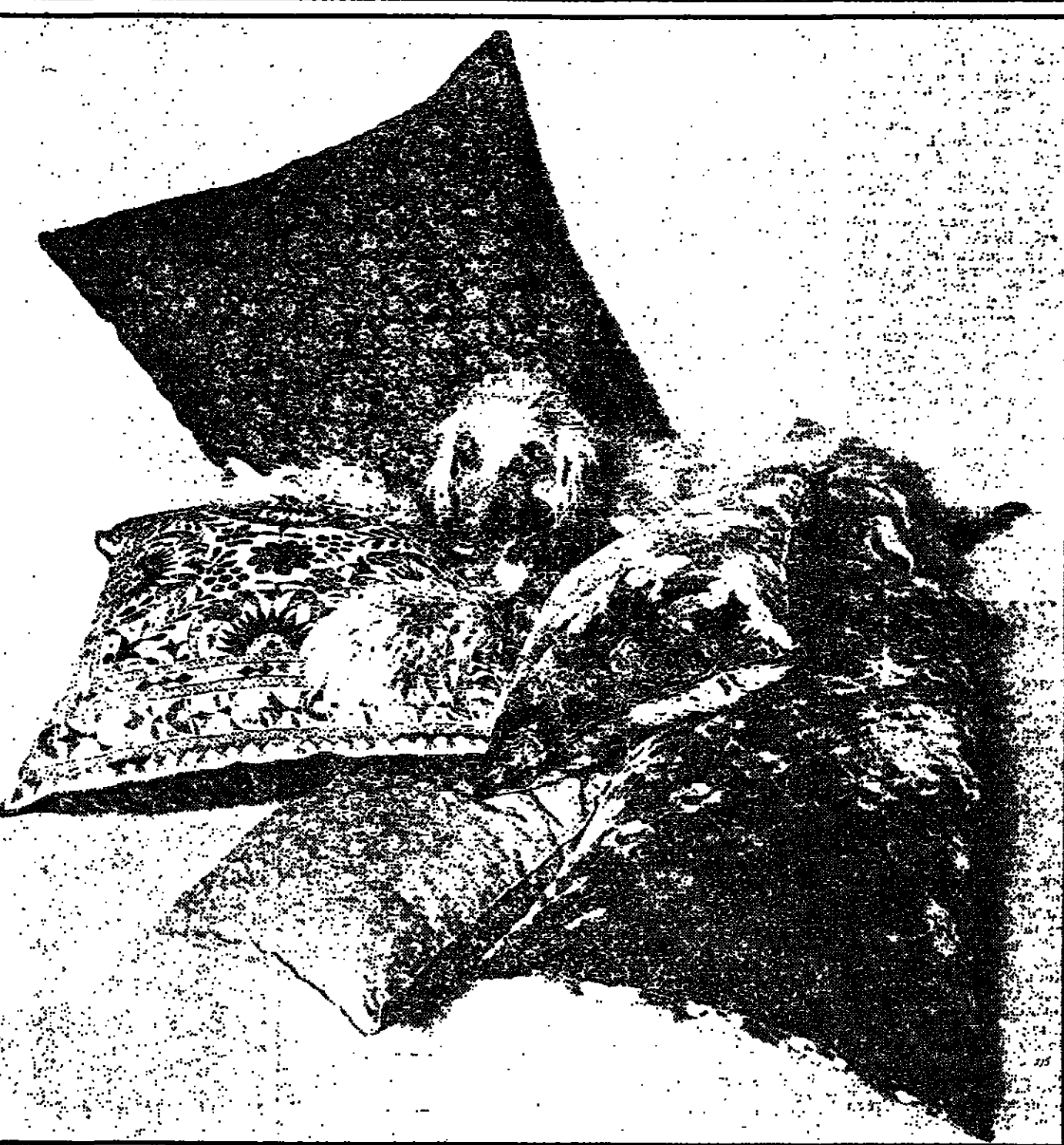
If you prefer your cushions made of antique lace, embroidery or crochet or want fabrics restored and repaired, telephone Anna Chasman on 01-229 0183 or see some of her work on shelf 51, Links Arcade, West Hampstead, London NW6 (corner of Portobello Road) between 9 am and 4 pm.



■ Those pottery pieces with legs and feet are still running away with customers' money wherever they stand to be admired—even old peg-leg Long John Silver with his eyepatch is an active seller. The design firm that dreamed up these china oddities is at it again with strange teapots and cups. The tap teapot in white and black is about £8 to £9 and is really rather elegant in its funny way.

The almost weird running horse with an Indian warrior on his broad back is also a teapot, all in honey and pale biscuit glazes at about £44.

Salt and pepper from a white, giant, china screw and bolt are conversation starters and cost £6.50 the pair. Not that price is everything for such curiosities because the teapot with the sexy naked lady draped over the top is persuading shoppers to part with £20 for her silvery beauty on a white teapot. Matching cups with beaded-knee legs as handles are from about £5 to £5.50 for a cup-and-saucer, while milk jugs and sugar bowls are about £6.50. Prices vary from shop to shop and you can get stocks names from the design couple, Denka Napierkowski and Roger Mitchell, Lustre Pottery, Knapton Cottages, East Knapton, Malton, North Yorkshire YO1 7BHZ (Rillington 376). In London, the range can be seen at Christopher Strangeways, 502 Kings Road, SW10 (01-352 9863) or Ideas, 10 South Molton Street, W1 (01-491 4587).



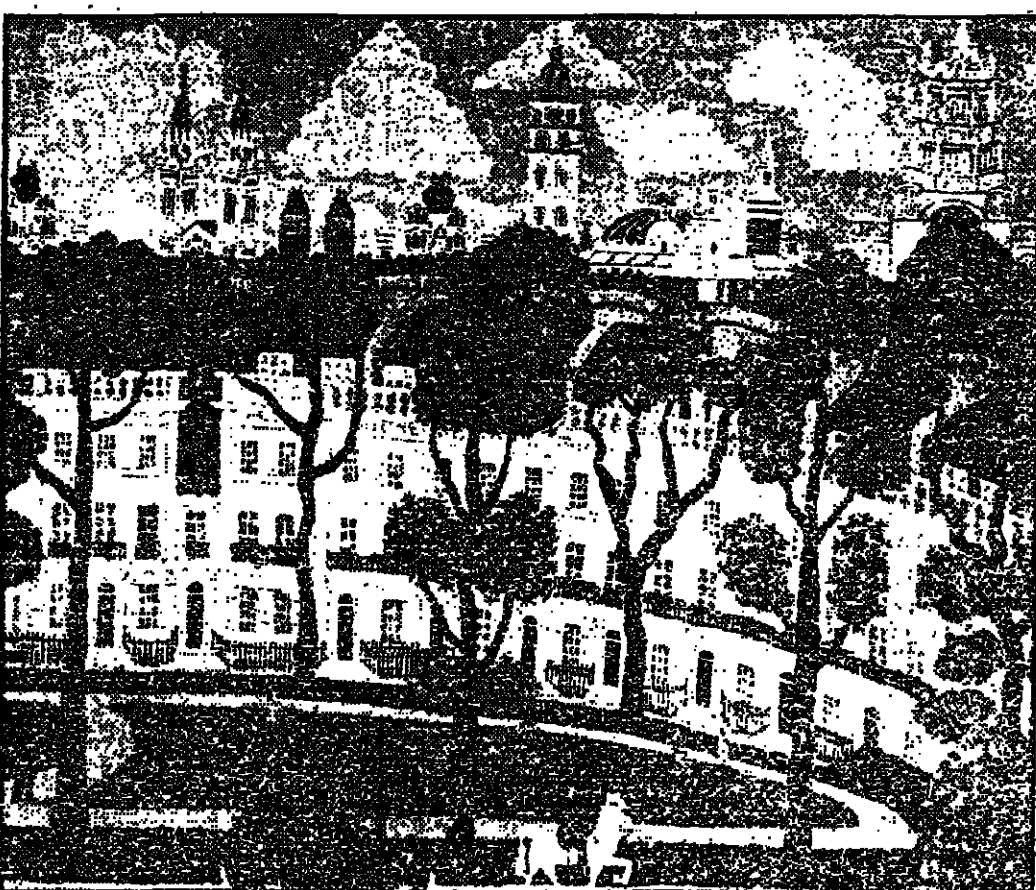
■ Selfridges has some really well-drawn and painted cards of some 15 different London scenes. Glossy, large at 7 by 5 1/2 inches, they are blank inside so that they can be used for any greeting and kept in store for sudden afterthoughts. The Portobello Road, Westminster Pier, Parliament Square and the Pelham Crescent (SW7) terrace illustrated here with the towers of the South Kensington museums in the background are only a few of a really

first-class set by Andrew Murray. On the ground floor at 30p each.

Hamleys Sport and Leisure Centre in Wigmore Street will welcome Peter Bull, astrological devotee with shop, actor and collector of teddy bears as well as a chronicler of their doings and feelings. Call in at 11 every morning on July 27, 28 and 29. On Friday, at 11, 12.30, 3.00 and 4.00, Michael Bond, creator of Paddington, will also be there. The teddy bear window and picnic on Wigmore Street is unveiled

today and there will be prizes for bear-lovers. Snooker addicts can win a billiards table or a special John Spencer cue, trophies, T-shirts, and so on. Contact 01-734 3161, ext 56, for entry details and then start practising. Back to cards, Joan Berry has drawn some very good animal cards depicting owls, rabbits, shire horses, a tiger, tabby cat, fox, Shetland sheep, dog, Beagle puppy, badger and many, many more. There are 16 small designs at 20p each and three large ones (shire horse, tiger

and tabby cat) at 30p each. At most craft and gift shops and bookshops they look like pencil drawings but are blank for all occasions. They are well, too. If you do not find them, write to Joan Berry at 16 Pettus Road, St Marychurch, Torquay, South Devon to check the prices. Packs contain anything from five to 16 cards. On example of price is 16 small with three large cards and suitable envelope at £3.60 including postage. The mums is Torquay 33562.



Chancellor considers it essential to combine flexibility with moderate growth in earnings

I have said that I hope examples will be taken advantage of the flexibility as some have in the present round.

Mrs Audrey Wise (Ovenson, South-West, Lab)—An observation on the Government's new cost of unemployment to the community. Demand and purchasing power could safely be allowed to rise if we had a policy of planned incomes.

Mr Hesley—Mrs Wise talks about my observation with unit costs. Any stimulus I give to the economy will leak into imports if our unit costs rise higher than the unit costs of other countries.

Therefore, a financial stimulus will produce jobs in other countries rather than in Britain unless we can get our unit costs down. This is the real solution to the problem through import controls.

The Dividends Bill extending statutory dividend control until the end of July, 1979, was presented and read a first time.

Lords amendments to the Inner Urban Areas Bill, the Independent Broadcasting Authority Bill, and the Community Service by the BBC (Scotland) Bill were considered.

House adjourned 3.44 pm.

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
"Afore ye go"

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
investment and
finance,
pages 18 and 19

Markets brighten on hope White Paper provision easier dividends policy

Allen and
Wilkins
markets yesterday gave
a but wary response
to the Government's counter-
White Paper. En-
thought that a
ation of dividend
being proposed,
moved higher on a

Index rose by 8.3
9.2, recovering from
losses to stand at its
since mid-May.
June of dealing in
renewed evidence
institutions were pre-
wait fuller details of
d proposals and the
next Thursday's
White Paper.

been few expecta-
dividend controls
newly removed and
suddenly assumed that
Bill does not
present proposals
as basis of a volun-
which most com-
be obliged to follow.
ision in the White
companies to increase
ends in line with
growth—subject to
not falling below
since November,
viewed as a modest
existing dividend

Mr Nicholas Good-
man of The Stock
Exchange immedi-
ately
attack on any con-
straint. He said
that affected 17 out
of 20 families who had
air savings invested
in capital industry
assurance and pen-
sion controls only tended
the equity market
and commercial

companies' shares are not
valued properly it will be more
expensive for them to raise
capital", he pointed out.

Stock market analysts do not
believe that the proposals will
open the way to a widespread
increase in corporate dividends.
According to the stockbrokers
Phillips & Drew, on the basis
of a survey of the prospects for
120 leading companies, as many
as 70 per cent may be unable
to raise their dividends by more
than the normal 10 per cent
limit.

This is because as many as
40 per cent are unlikely to
increase their earnings by as
much as 10 per cent, while a
further 30 per cent will be
ruled out by the dividend cover
restrictions.

Of the remaining 30 per cent,
Phillips & Drew estimates that
a median dividend increase
could be about 20 per cent. The
effect on companies as a whole
would be to raise dividends by
some 3 to 4 per cent.
Other potential beneficiaries
include capital-raising devices
which probably lead to an increase
in dividend payments of a further
3 to 4 per cent over the 10
per cent norm, Phillips & Drew
calculates that dividends over-
all next year could rise by 15
to 20 per cent.

Among companies seemingly
best placed to benefit from the
proposed new rules are those
now seeing an upturn in trade
as a result of the consumer
spending boom, notably big
street groups such as Marks &
Spencer, Mothercare and UDS.
Other potential beneficiaries
include such long-term growth
stocks as GEC and BP.

Meanwhile there is likely to
be a reassessment of some of
the other companies, such as
Unilever and Shell, which have

accumulated big dividend back-
logs but may not now be able
to pay them out if the present
proposals are implemented.

These, and other stocks with
particularly high dividend
cover, have been favoured by
investors in recent months in
the hope that, after the end of
July, they might be free to
raise their dividends signifi-
cantly.

However, a number of uncer-
tainties remain about the
detailed implementation of the
new proposals. These are
expected to be cleared up at
the beginning of next week in a
further statement from the
Treasury.

One concerns the position of
companies which have recently
declared results or will do so
before the beginning of August.
It is unclear whether these com-
panies will be able to fix their
dividend policies in the light of
the new rather than the old
dividend controls.

Another concern is changes in
accounting principles related to
deferred tax. It is unclear
whether companies which
change their tax treatment to
conform with latest account-
ing recommendations, and
thereby boost their published
earnings, will be able to lift
their dividends accordingly.

However, most stockbrokers
believe that cosmetic adjust-
ments of this sort will not
qualify companies to increase
their dividends disproportionately.
A further grey area concerns
the position of those companies
recently subject to the national-
ization of aircraft or shipbuilding
operations. In their case it
is not known what basis of earn-
ings will be allowed for the
purposes of determining divi-
dends under the new rules.

CBI wants pay clause to exclude sanctions

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Employers are preparing to
take a tough line over the con-
tinued use of government
contracts to underpin a 5 per
cent pay limit. The White Paper,
outlining the fourth stage of
incomes restraint, yesterday
explicitly stated that the pay
clauses in existing government
contracts will remain in force
and they will continue to be
enshrined in new contracts.

The Confederation of British
Industry, which is bitterly
opposed to this type of sanction,
is calling an emergency meet-
ing of the 100 or so member
companies likely to be affected,
to decide what its strategy
should be.

Sir John Methven, the CBI's
director-general, said yesterday
that attitudes would depend on
whether there was "a whole-
hearted and explicit support"
from the trade union side.

Employers also fear that the
sanctions may be extended to
enforce dividend controls if the
Bill to reintroduce statutory
curbs fails to pass through
Parliament.
Having failed in its initial
bid to get the pay clauses
dropped altogether from the
incomes policy, the CBI's next
move will be to seek further
amendments in order to make
the sanctions more acceptable
to its members.

Mr Denis Healey, the Chan-
cellor of the Exchequer, in his
statement in the Commons on
counter-inflation policy ex-
tended an olive branch towards
a compromise when he said:
"The Government will, of
course, as promised in March",
be ready to hold discussions
with the CBI about the future
operation of the pay clauses.

Although the clauses have
already been substantially
amended, after CBI representa-
tions earlier this year, the em-
ployers are still worried about
some fundamental aspects. They
would like, for example, an
appeal formula backed by some
form of arbitration procedure
on interpretation of the guide-
lines.

The CBI also strongly objects
to the requirement in the
clauses for employers to be
committed to all future policies
as well as to the existing guide-
lines. Apart from their vigorous
opposition both to the continu-
ing use of sanctions and the
reintroduction of dividend con-
trols, the CBI broadly supports
the White Paper.

It is in the interests of
everyone for pay settlements
to be as moderate as possible
and this is something that em-
ployers will continue to strive
for.

But the rigidities and differ-
entials problems caused by the
last three years of incomes
policies are already seriously
affecting industrial efficiency",
says the CBI.

Managers are also concerned
that the new 5 per cent guide-
line may not give sufficient
tolerance to iron out anomalies.
Mr Roy Close, the director-
general of the British Institute
of Management, said last night
that the "institute accepts the
need for overall restraint and
moderation in pay restraint".

The BIM also felt that it was
going to be "extremely diffi-
cult to reintroduce the element
of incentive that is needed for
managers and other skilled and
professional workers".

£25m NEB stake in microelectronics project approved but final funding could total £50m

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

The National Enterprise
Board has agreed to invest an
initial £25m in its new micro-
electronics company, which
emerged yesterday as a unique
type of enterprise, based firmly
on both sides of the Atlantic.
It is regarded by the board as
a high-risk, but potentially
highly profitable venture.

Founders of the company,
named Immos, are Dr Richard
Petritz and Dr Paul Schroeder
of the United States and Mr
Iann Barron of the United
Kingdom. The aim is to design
and make integrated circuits for
worldwide sales, and to concen-
trate on the next generation of
metal oxide semiconductor
(MOS) technology.

In particular, the company's
products will include a range of
memory circuits and microcom-
puter devices based on very
large scale integration (VLSI).

In general the memories will be
developed in the United States
and the microcomputer devices
in Britain. Prototype produc-
tion will begin in the United
States, with volume production
planned for the United King-
dom in 1982.

By the mid-1980s, it is ex-
pected, the company will employ
about 4,000 people in the United
Kingdom, and 3,000 in the
United States. This would ex-
clude possible "offshore" (ie
Far East) final assembly of the
circuits.

The board of the NEB has
approved the initial Immos busi-
ness plan, which calls for peak



Mr Iann Barron (left) with Dr Richard Petritz (centre) and Dr Paul Schroeder.

NEB funding of £50m. Of this,
£25m has been committed, and
the remainder will depend on
the company's performance. The
investment will be in a combi-
nation of ordinary shares and
convertible preference shares.
To attract high-quality experi-
enced staff to join Immos, key
employees will be able to buy
ordinary shares in the company.
Eventually the three founders
and future employees could
hold up to 27.5 per cent of
the voting shares in the com-
pany.

Corporate headquarters for
Immos will be in the United
Kingdom. Operations will start
on both sides of the Atlantic
simultaneously, the first objec-

tives being to establish design
teams and plan production
facilities.

According to Sir Leslie
Murphy, chairman of the NEB,
the Immos investment is seen as
complementary to the activities
of existing British companies.
"Immos is one of the most
important NEB investments so
far", he said yesterday.

The three founders of the
company first approached the
NEB last November. Dr Petritz
has been involved with the
semiconductor industry for
more than 20 years; he was at
one time director of Texas
Instruments' semiconductor
research and development
laboratory, and founded Mostek

Corporation, a leading micro-
processor company, in 1969.

Mr Barron is well-known in
the British computer industry.
He founded Computer Techno-
logy, a pioneer minicomputer
company in the United King-
dom, in 1965, and was manag-
ing director until 1971. In
recent years he has been a con-
sultant on microcomputers
and other computing develop-
ments.

Dr Schroeder is an experi-
enced designer of dynamic
storage devices in MOS technol-
ogy. He worked for Bell Tele-
phone Laboratories and since
1974 for Mostek. Since 1976 he
has been director of memory
design engineering at Mostek.

1 for tougher measures to curb inflation rises likely to be deferred

arrises
the Government's
per on inflation
is special emphasis
of the Price Com-
mission to make it
companies to get
increases less, it is
been postponed.
Battersley, Secretary
of Prices and Con-
servation, is believed to
attempt to
to month controver-
sies to the profit safe-
guards which operate
after a commission
decision.

are now unlikely
an autumn General
elect the commission
Mr Hattersley with
sue that the present
are severely hamper-
ed. So far this has not
sailing.

under the safeguard
that companies can
trim price increases
investigation. Mr
has been considering
to make them less

ther of investigations
year companies have
to claim successfully,
or in some cases all,
eases which gave rise
to allegations.
at time to have put

through changes toughening up
the regulations was the end of
this month, although there has
been strong opposition to the
idea, particularly from the Con-
federation of British Industry.

But it is understood there
have been misgivings in the
Cabinet about voting problems
which could arise in the House
of Commons. Changes in the
safeguards could be brought to
a Commons vote, on a negative
resolution.

The problem is how far that
could be risked in the present
voting situation. A change at the end of this
month would have come con-
veniently with the end of profit
margin controls, the hangover
from earlier prices legislation.

Among changes then being
introduced is a simpler form of
price notification on which Mr
Hattersley is now completing
consultations with various in-
terested bodies, including the
CBI and Retail Consortium.

These issues are not expected
to raise any grave difficulties,
although the CBI feels the re-
laxations "are not sufficiently
wide-ranging".

The Government's emphasis
yesterday on the inflation-
fighting role of the Price Com-
mission is not expected to lead
to an immediate gearing up of
its work, although the clearing

away of the profit margin con-
trols should reduce the admini-
strative burden on the com-
mission, just as it should for
more companies.

Fewer investigations of price
risers have been started on the
commission's own initiative in
the past year than the 40
originally expected. So far 18
have been completed and an-
other seven are in the pipeline.

But Mr Hattersley has asked
the commission to make investi-
gations of 14 sectors of
industry already this year, to-
gether with those on coffee and
tea which the commission com-
pleted for its predecessor.

This is significantly more
than the 10 a year originally
envisaged, and the commission
should be ready to take on
another major group of sector
investigations by the early
autumn.

A number of new sector
investigations are believed to
be under consideration by Mr
Hattersley. One which has
already been discussed is an
inquiry into what happens in
the pricing pipeline on im-
ported goods.

There has been concern at
the extent of mark-ups at some
retail points on goods that were
particularly cheap when landed
in Britain.

increase to 8, or at the most,
9 per cent. More than this
would send the inflation rate
soaring up again.

The Government has tacitly
accepted that any published
guideline figure will be treated
as a norm for settlements and
that there will be an additional
few per cent on overall earn-
ings because of wage drift and
productivity deals. It has not
presented the five per cent as
a norm for settlements and
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few per cent on overall earn-
ings because of wage drift and
productivity deals. It has not
presented the five per cent as
a norm for settlements and
that there will be an additional
few per cent on overall earn-
ings because of wage drift and
productivity deals.

Last year the 10 per cent
guideline was supposed to refer
to total earnings increases,
rather than rises in basic wages.
Actual wage settlements were
intended to be well below the
10 per cent. In fact the earn-

ings outcome for 1977-78 is
expected to be about 4 per cent
above the 10 per cent guideline.
There is Government deter-
mination that negotiators
should aim to keep the total
increase in pay within 5 per
cent. Changes in pay structures,
differentials and other flexi-
bility should all be included in
the 5 per cent. Self-financing
productivity deals come on top
of the guideline.

The inflation and earnings
assumptions behind the White
Paper imply a tight operation
of the guidelines.

It is hoped that wages drift
will be no more in Phase Four
than it was in Phase Two.

50 brands of Distillers to cost more

By Our Commercial Editor

Distillers Company stirred up
the already confused whisky
market in the United Kingdom
yesterday by announcing a
domestic market price rise for
50 of its group brands, includ-
ing its gins and vodkas, from
August 1.

On Scotch, including Haig
and White Horse brands, the
wholesale price rise will be
about 7.5p a bottle. Gin, includ-
ing Gordon's, will go up about
4.2p a bottle and Cossack
vodka by about 8.3p a bottle.

But some whiskies are ex-
cluded from the price rises, in-
cluding five brands substantially
increased last January after
dispute with the European Com-
mission about dual pricing.
These are Black and White,
VAT 69, Dewar's, Johnnie
Walker Black Label and Anti-
quary. The price also remains
static for a newly launched
starling whisky, Clymore.

Since the row with the Com-
mission, which ended in Dis-
tillers withdrawing from the
United Kingdom market its
Johnnie Walker Red Label,
there has been a scramble to
snatch this brand's 10 per cent
share of the market.

Fresh advance by sterling

By Our Economics Staff

Sterling rose again on the
foreign exchange markets yester-
day, leading the rise against the
dollar. The markets were
cheered by the low limit for
pay rises in the Government's
White Paper.

The pound gained 0.2 points
on its effective rate index
measured against a basket of
currencies, and now represents
62.7 per cent of its end-1971
value. The Bank of England
was thought to have taken some
dollars into the reserves to re-
strain sterling's rise.

It now stands 14 per cent
above its level of two weeks
ago, and the dollar against
sterling gained 70 points, to
close at \$191.11. This is the
best level since the middle of
March. The dollar also lost
ground against other currencies,
in particular the Swiss franc.
Gold added a further \$2.75 to
touch \$191.8 at the London
close, mainly on dollar
weakness.

Lloyds Bank California is

BP spends £102m in Australian coal deal

By Desmond Quigley
Company News Editor

British Petroleum, in its race
to reach a production target of
20 million tonnes of coal a year,
is paying A\$169m (about
£102m) to buy the outstanding
50 per cent in Clutha, one of
Australia's top steaming coal
projects.

BP took a 50 per cent interest
in the project in 1977 with Uni-
verse Tankships for an almost
similar cost.

Last year the New South
Wales coal mine made a net
profit of A\$29.6m. After buying
out Universe's stake, the cost of
BP's investment will have been
a modest 11 times historic
earnings.

Yesterday, BP said the ex-
pansion was "a logical exten-
sion" of the group's coal
interests.

The deal is subject to Aus-
tralian Federal Government ap-
proval. However, since it is buy-
ing the remaining 50 per cent
stake from another foreign
company, BP is unlikely to fall
 foul of Australian restrictions
on foreign ownership of natural
resources.

But to make certain, BP com-
mented yesterday that it al-
ready "recognised the desir-
ability of Australian participa-
tion in Clutha and is actively
investigating means by which
this objective can be met".

Most of the big oil companies
have been rapidly expanding
their coal interests over the last
couple of years, but it has been
the British companies, BP and
Shell, which have particularly
aligned on the steaming coal
prospects of Australia and
South Africa.

For long neglected because
of a lower value than coking
coal and high freight costs,
steaming coal has suddenly
come into its own as earlier
prophesies of the expansion of
nuclear power have been down-
graded.

Additionally, freight rates
have declined while some coun-
tries, such as Japan, have be-
come worried about their de-
pendence on oil for energy
supplies.

It will be cheaper to import
Clutha coal into the United
Kingdom than to buy from the
National Coal Board, despite
the freight charges.

UK acquisition, page 19

Lloyds Bank pre-tax profit in first half down 15 pc

By Our Banking Correspondent

Lloyds cast a shadow yester-
day over the clearing bank
reporting season, which con-
tinues next week with the
results from the other three
clearers, by announcing profits
some way below stock market
expectations.

Pre-tax profits for the six
months to the end of June of
£76.5m were 15 per cent below
the same period last year but
roughly in line with the second
half of 1977, when average in-
terest rates and domestic bank-
ing margins were broadly simi-
lar to the latest period.

Unlike the last two years,
when the international division
has been the main engine of
profits, these were no more
than maintained in the first
half of this year although they
at present account for more
than half of total group profits.

Lloyds Bank California is

now showing its mettle, but
elsewhere narrower lending
margins coupled with adver-
sely exchange rate movements—
especially in Latin America,
which cut profits by £4.7m—
has slowed down the inter-
national side.

At home, growth of about
one seventh in advances has
been offset by increasing costs
and narrower margins, with
average base rates almost a
third lower at 7.44 per cent,
while the margin between base
and deposit rates fell from 3.95
to 3.41 per cent. The bank's
greater reliance on current
account money also worked
against it.

Elsewhere associate profits
rose from £9.3m to £11.2m, most
of which came from the Lloyds
& Scottish hire-purchase con-
tribution.

Lloyds interim dividend goes
up from 6.3p to 6.9p gross.

Thomson share freeze explained

By Our Economics Staff

Shares in Thomson Organiza-
tion were suspended yesterday
at the company's request after
rising 10p to 295p. The company
said the suspension had been
made pending the announce-
ment of a Scheme of Arrange-
ment involving the North Sea
petroleum interests of Thomson
Scottish Associates.

A further announcement is
expected to be made within the
next few days.

Thomson has the option to
acquire 90 per cent of the 20
per cent interest held by
Thomson Scottish Associates in
the Occidental North Sea Con-
sortium.

The interests are in the Piper
Field, which began production
in late 1976, and the Claymore
field, which went on stream in
November last year.

In the last annual report Mr
G. C. Branton, the chief execu-
tive, commented on the inter-
ests: "While we continue to
recognize the risks always in-
herent in such projects, North
Sea oil cash flows should exceed
the reinvestment needs and the
scheduled debt repayment dur-
ing 1978, and this may enable
us to take advantage of your
company's rights under the
option arrangements in the fore-
seeable future."

Computer acquisition:
Thomson Organisation also an-
nounced yesterday that it had
acquired from Unilever Com-
puter Services the rights and
goodwill in "Computacore", the
computerized match-making ser-
vice for buyers and sellers of
new and used cars.

The service is to remain at its
present headquarters in Wem-
bley, and the staff have been
offered continuing employment.
UCS will continue to supply
computer processing services
after Thomson takes over on
July 24.

Bank's fuller check on
overseas clearers

As part of its widening
supervisory role already allu-
ded to in its evidence to the Wilson
Committee, the Bank of Eng-
land has written to overseas
clearing banks in London that
it wishes to be kept more fully
informed of their operations in
the United Kingdom, including
new branch openings.

Policy aim to reduce inflation below 7½ pc

ne Atkinson
is Healey said yester-
day the annual inflation
rate brought down to
June figure of 7.4
by the end of next
year. The Government's
aim is to reduce it to
below 7 per cent. He
said a rise of 23 per
cent in the price index
in the first half of 1978
was a "very serious prob-
lem".

The Government hopes that
by setting a new pay guideline
which is based on earnings
in Phase Three, the overall rise in total
earnings will also be halved.
This implies an increase of 7
per cent in average earnings
during the year to mid-
1979. Unofficially the Treasury
is probably hoping to keep the

this time last year was running
at 17½ per cent.

But industry is already los-
ing competitiveness as a result
of the result of the rapid earn-
ings increases in Phase Three.
Much smaller rises in pay
are essential if the rate of in-
flation is to be held within single
figures, let alone reduced still
further.

The Government hopes that
by setting a new pay guideline
which is based on earnings
in Phase Three, the overall rise in total
earnings will also be halved.
This implies an increase of 7
per cent in average earnings
during the year to mid-
1979. Unofficially the Treasury
is probably hoping to keep the

increase to 8, or at the most,
9 per cent. More than this
would send the inflation rate
soaring up again.

The Government has tacitly
accepted that any published
guideline figure will be treated
as a norm for settlements and
that there will be an additional
few per cent on overall earn-
ings because of wage drift and
productivity deals. It has not
presented the five per cent as
a norm for settlements and
that there will be an additional
few per cent on overall earn-
ings because of wage drift and
productivity deals.

Last year the 10 per cent
guideline was supposed to refer
to total earnings increases,
rather than rises in basic wages.
Actual wage settlements were
intended to be well below the
10 per cent. In fact the earn-

the markets moved

The Times Index: 209.38 + 2.95
The FT index: 479.2 + 8.3

THE POUND

Bank	2p to 327p	Minster Assets	51p to 63p	Bank	2p to 327p
	4p to 187p	Metals Exptor	21p to 301p	Australia S	1.72 1.66
	8p to 272p	Premier Cons	11p to 182p	Austria Sch	29.50 27.50
	12p to 312p	Nears Bros	1p to 142p	Belgium Fr	61.50 61.50
	15p to 344p	Royal Elect	16p to 264p	Canada S	2.18 2.11
	18p to 608p	Southval	23p to 308p	Denmark Kr	11.05 10.55
	25p to 549p	Wade Potteries	2p to 30p	Finland Mk\$	8.26 7.93
				France Fr	8.74 8.24
Grp				Germany Dm	4.09 3.87
				Greece Dr	71.00 67.00
				Hongkong S	9.15 8.70
	5p to 250p	Ladbroke	5p to 155p		166.00 157.00
	10p to 44p	Medminster	1p to 23p	Japan Yen	465.00 389.00
	15p to 152p	On and Assc	2p to 57p	Netherlands Gld	4.41 4.18
	6p to 30p	Millford Docks	2p to 76p	Norway Kr	10.66 10.21
	10p to 352p	Time Products	3p to 175p	Portugal Esc	82.00 82.00
Gutch	1p to 28p	UC Inves	3p to 210p	S Africa Rd	1.85 1.72
	5p to 245p	Warren Plant		Spain Pes	151.00 144.00
				Sweden Kr	8.98 8.58

Fixed interest investment

**A range of choices
in the local
authority market**

organization which issued the travellers' cheques and the local police. This last is important since most insurance demands some evidence that a theft took place and that evidence comes from reporting the matter to the local police.

You get a written statement from the police that you got in touch with them within 24 hours of any theft taking place.

For the traveller out of funds, bewildered and desperate there are two numbers he can telephone for help. Both Access and Barclaycard have their own series of emergency numbers.

Roger Beard

101.3	St Andrew	30.6/78	4.15				
101.3	Scottish Eastern	30.6/78	4.3	176.4	154.4		30.0
26.3	Scottish Ontario	30.6/78	4.1	183.0	186.7		31.1
57.3	Securities Trust	30.6/78	4.1	221.9			39.2
	Scotland	30.6/78	6.1	242.1	261.9		39.2
Murray Johnston							
45.7	Caledonian	30.6/78	1.6	110.4	119.9		22.0
73.1	Clydesdale	30.6/78	1.675	106.9	107.0		31.4
119.7	Glenelven	30.6/78	1.65	136.4	141.7		30.0
7.2	Glenmurray	30.6/78	1.65	105.5	105.5		13.6
14.6	Glenelven & Co Ltd	30.6/78	2.6	96.3	105.2		25.9
82.0	Scottish Western	30.6/78	2.2	131.9	137.0		29.5
22.6	Scottish Western	30.6/78	2.0	120.4	123.5		26.2
	Schroder Wagg Group	30.6/78	4.05	190.4	198.6		34.2
22.6	Ashtedon	1982/83	1.9	112.3	119.9		26.2
73.1	Ashtedon	1982/83	1.9	112.3	119.9		26.2
71.8	Australian & Internal	30.6/78	2.7	129.3	126.3		25.5
3.2	Broadstone	30.6/78	1.5	135	135.3		30.0
14.6	Capital Loan	1982/83	1.4	119.2	120.0		21.8
347.8	Confidential & Ind	30.6/78	6.4	252.8	264.5		39.5
11.6	Trans-Oceanic	30.6/78	5.0	212.9	243.4		38.9
14.0	Westpool	1982/84	3.3	145.5	149.0		30.7
	Westpool	1982/84	3.3	145.5	149.0		30.7
	Stewart Fin Managers	30.6/78	2.8	112.1	112.3		30.0
79.7	Scottish American	30.6/78	1.5	73.1	73.1		5.1
12.9	Scottish European	30.6/78	1.5	73.1	73.1		5.1
	Teuchie Remant	30.6/78	1.5	73.1	73.1		5.1
106.3	Atlas Electric & Gen	30.6/78	1.9	82.8	82.1		6.4
106.3	Atlas Electric & Gen	30.6/78	1.9	82.8	82.1		6.4
32.1	Cedar	30.6/78	2.5	69.6	69.6		6.7
40.1	City of London Braw	30.6/78	2.4	76.4	69.0		10.0
30.7	Confidential Gen	30.6/78	2.0	72.6	72.6		18.3
15.7	C.L.R.P.	30.6/78	1.9	92.3	96.6		30.5
180.3	Industrial & Gen	30.6/78	1.3	72.6	72.6		10.0
30.7	Confidential Gen	30.6/78	2.0	72.6	72.6		18.3
59.8	Sphere	30.6/78	3.3	157.0	161.7		79.5
45.3	International	30.6/78	1.3	103.7	103.7		10.0
35.3	Trust Union	30.6/78	3.4	143.7	140.4		10.4
	Williams & Glyn's Bank	30.6/78	1.5	70.4	104.4		10.0
41.4	Stratford Securities	30.6/78	1.5	103.4	104.4		10.0
3.0	Atlantic Baltimore & Chicago	30.6/78	0.3	65.0	68.0		6.7
12.7	Texas Regional	30.6/78	0.75	86.5	86.5		11.0
EVALUATION THREE-MONTHLY							
12.7	Gen Scottish Trust	30.6/78	5.35	114.3	115.5		11.7
12.7	Gen Scottish Trust	30.6/78	5.35	114.3	115.5		11.7
11.2	Lancashire & London	30.6/78	1.1	52.3	52.3		5.0
11.2	Lancashire & London	30.6/78	1.1	52.3	52.3		5.0
11.2	Lancashire & London	30.6/78	1.1	52.3	52.3		5.0
11.2	Lancashire & London	30.6/78	1.1	52.3	52.3		5.0
16.2	Yeoman	30.6/78	10.75	325.5	325.5		14.4
6.9	East of Scotland Investment Mgrs	30.6/78	7.75	263.0	272.7		37.0
30.5	Dunlop & Gen	30.6/78	0.5	46.3	167.0		21.8
	Rivermond Management Services	30.6/78	4.04	126	126.0		26.8
75.6	Capital Loan	1982/87	30.6/78	ac58.00	ac148.00	ac120.00	ac20.00

44 1/2p	79p	Uawson's lint	15p to 140p	Reveries
43p	77p	Kode Int	15p to 145p	Almond of figs
270p	215p	Stock conversion	15p to 250p	Broker's circular
30p	186p	Waddington (J)	22p to 212p	Better year hopes
Fails				
448p	206p	Furness Wythly	7p to 266p	Shipping bloom
81p	64p	Inveresk	10p to 185p	Int. seaboard
151p	157p	Ladbroke	12p to 63p	Broker's circular

Rises			
Est's	Year's low	Company	Change
290p	188p	BTR	26p to 307p
443p	99p	Dawson Int	130p to 140p
443p	7p	Code Int	15p to 145p
270p	215p	Stock Conversion	18p to 258p
230p	180p	Waddington (J)	22p to 212p
Falls			
448p	266p	Furness Wyth	7p to 266p
81p	64p	Inveresk	10p to 68p
15p	157p	Ladbroke	12p to 155p
144p	345p	Rowntree	5p to 332p
290p	293p	Hoover	2p to 293p
			Shipping gloom
			Int setback
			Broker's circular
			Profit taking
			Profit taking

Dunfermline to make it right royal occasion

Phillips might prefer softer conditions under foot and she is preferred to Dunfermline, who finished just in front of her in last year's Arc and just behind her in the Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot.

At the request of his owner, Ralph Stuart, Dunfermline is being ridden today by Maurice Campbell, a New Zealand jockey who won the 1977 New Zealand Cup in Australia. Dunfermline, who has ridden him in his last four races in England, originally it was said that Starkey had been chosen to ride the American challenger, that is, the American jockey, Willie Shoemaker, who has been since he arrived in this country nine days ago. But in fact that is incorrect. Against the wishes of Dunfermline's owner, John Dunlop, Mr Stuart wanted Dunfermline to be ridden by Campbell in spite of his lack of experience in this country. Yesterday Campbell had his first ride at Ascot when he partnered Quin Camille in a race over today's course and distance. The American jockey, Willie Shoemaker, also rode in the same race and actually won the race, and what he learned must have stood him in good stead vis a vis this afternoon as he tries to improve his first record on Dunfermline. He has ridden on Hawaiian Sound on whom he has already finished second in the Derby and third in the Irish Derby.

On each occasion Dunfermline is in front virtually all the way. This time Shoemaker will try to restrain him and conserve his energy for later on. Whether those tactics prove successful remain to be seen. Deep down I still have a feeling that a mile and a quarter may run out to be Dunfermline's ideal distance. Hawaiian Sound is one of four three-year-olds in the field for this race that has been won by 13 three-year-olds and 14 older horses in its history which now stands at 27 classic races. Three-year-olds have done conspicuously well of late, winning it six times out of eight in the '70s, and this year Dunfermline should be able to make it, even though she is not.



Carson and Dunfermline, a partnership that will be hard to beat.

Stakes for Diamond Stakes

DIAMOND STAKES (2-y-o: £1,500: 1m)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4

Ayr programme

1.30 FAIRFOLD HANDICAP (£1,741: 7f)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4

Newmarket programme

2.0 HARTON HANDICAP (£1,601: 5f)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4

Warwick programme

6.0 ACCUMULATOR MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £813: 2m)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4

Lewis's claim to Land of Burns

By Michael Seely. Lewis's claim to the Land of Burns is a serious one. The £10,000 Carfax Dry Shield, the most valuable race at Ayr, may fall to Michael Seely's horse, Lewis, who will be ridden by Mark Black. The most serious claim to the Land of Burns is Lewis's claim to the Land of Burns. Lewis is a three-year-old, but in common with the rest of his breed, he should be close between the three principals.

best bet at Gosforth Park should be Paul Kellaway. Lightning Label in the Bonthal Stakes (1.45). This African Sky colt was backed from 20 to 1 to 1 to make a winning first appearance at Gosforth Park, and obliged in no uncertain fashion with a seven-length victory. The form of that race has worked out well, and Lightning Label cannot be opposed.

Preference for Jellaby

From Desmond Stoddham. Paris, July 21. The one-mile Prix Messidor at Maisons-Laffitte on Sunday will probably be a bit of an anti-climax to the day's racing. Jellaby has arrived at the course from Ryan Price's Paddock stable and will be ridden by Mark Black. Jellaby has won the Prix de la Forêt and the Prix de la Forêt, and is a three-year-old, but in common with the rest of his breed, he should be close between the three principals.

English runners

part in finish. Belgium's most valuable racing event, the 547,885 Grand Prix de France, was won, as expected, by French favourite Dom Alaric, ridden by Alain Badel. The son of Salsafas led on by a neck to beat another French runner, Tip Moss, who won the Swedish-owned Level Par, three lengths and a half away, third.

Programme

1.30 FAIRFOLD HANDICAP (£1,741: 7f)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
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 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4

Newcastle programme

1.45 BOTAL STAKES (2-y-o: £1,341: 6f)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
 Carson (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4

Ayr results

1.45 LIGHTNING LABEL is specially recommended. 2.15 Coughlin's Prince. 2.45 John de Coombe. 3.15 Watawonder. 3.45 Welsh Piper. 4.15 Charlotte Mary. 4.45 Senor Sam.

Warwick programme

6.0 ACCUMULATOR MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £813: 2m)
 Dunfermline (D. Stuart), J. Dunlop, 5-7 ... M. Campbell 4
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SPORT

Golf

The magic driver O'Connor made

From Mitchell Plaza Noordwijk, July 21

Christy O'Connor, Jr., aged 29, a former Ryder Cup player, and Manuel Ballesteros, a Spaniard, of the same age, scored two-under-par 70s late in the day to share the lead in the first round of the Dutch Open golf championship, which began here today.

O'Connor and Ballesteros finished one shot ahead of Carl Mason, a former British youth champion. Nicholas Price, a member of the Roushda Elenhower Trophy team in 1976, and John Blair, of South Africa, were tied for fourth place. The 6,963 yard course, opened only six years ago, meanders through sand dunes and can prove particularly difficult when the wind blows strongly from the North Sea. One of the prime objectives must be to keep the ball on the fairway because the rough still requires a certain amount of grooming.

O'Connor, who used a new driver that he had put together himself prior to the Open championship, missed only one fairway, which undoubtedly contributed to the Irishman taking only 11 holes to reach the clubhouse. He missed the fairway when he used a two-iron at the 353rd seventh hole and struck the top of the trees, where the hole dived sharply to the left. He was forced to play out backwards and finished with a six.

Beginning at the 10th hole, O'Connor suffered an early setback when he took three putts for a five. He pitched to eight feet and successfully holed for a birdie at the 11th, and holed from six feet and 20 feet at the 12th and 17th respectively to reach the turn in 34, two-under-par.

When O'Connor made a birdie four at the 551st second-his 11th hole—it seemed likely that he would lead the tournament. But after making six at the seventh he did remarkably well to make a birdie four at the long ninth and share the lead with Ballesteros.

It has become noticeable that links courses bring the best out of Ballesteros—the elder brother of Antonio—and today he nearly put together a run of four birdies in six holes from the 11th to finish on 70.

Nelson went to the Open Championship at Andrews extremely early in order that he could practice his game and get himself into the right frame of mind for the second half of the season. He believes that was the reason behind him finishing 24th and today he demonstrated that his



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game is in the right groove to win a championship.

Mason accepted poor drives at the first and the fifth and holed putts of 23ft and 12ft to save his pars as he reached the turn in 36. He had four birdies and three under-par in the first round.

Price, from Johannesburg, has been enjoying himself since he finished fifth in Jersey at the start of June in the Open sponsored by British Airways and Avis. Two weeks later he came sixth in the Greater Manchester Open and last Saturday he was sixth in the St Andrews Open. To complete 73 holes at St Andrews was one of Price's two major objectives on his first tour in Europe since he became a professional last August.

His other aim is to finish in the top 50 of the order of merit in the second half of the season. His last season, Price, who has won £2,700 this season, calculates he needs another £800

to ensure that he has gathered sufficient points to achieve his objective. He was hoping that he would succeed this week so that he could leave for home because he is ready for a rest.

Unfortunately, the boycott by members of the European Tour against the Dutch Open championship being held in the Netherlands has also meant that there will be no order of merit points this week, because some players had left the course before it was announced that a tournament would be held. Those who had departed included Bernard Gallacher, Ken Brown, Mark James, Peter Dawson, Peter Townsend and Eddie Pollard.

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THREE TIMES THE LOSING FINISHER in the Scottish Open stroke play championship—and the more he practised, the worse he became. Finally, Cuddihy lost the only possible course of action was to take a break. For three weeks he did not touch a club—and then came back intent on keeping things simple. He has been plagued at Dornoch by the feeling that his swing "might not happen", but, having come back from three down with six to play

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Football

McMenemy ponders a move to Leeds

Lawrie McMenemy will decide within the next day or two whether to stay at Southampton or become Jimmy Armfield's successor at Elland Road. Leeds United have made an official approach for Mr McMenemy, who last season took Southampton back into the first division. The latter arrived at the Dell minutes before Wednesday's board meeting, but so far no permission has been given for them to talk to Mr McMenemy.

If he is interested in going to Leeds, Southampton will give the go-ahead for discussions. At the same time they will do their utmost to retain Mr McMenemy, whose no-nonsense approach during the past five years has worked wonders for the club.

Mr McMenemy (Sheffield United) was refused permission to talk to him last season. A lot is being said about the situation at Leeds, but I have been informed by the board that a letter would be sent to him this week so that this stage is far more concerned with preparing Southampton for a season in the first division than with talking about anything else.

Those whose names have been put forward for the job of manager of Southampton are: Brian Clough, who is now in charge at Home Park. He made two senior appearances for Ipswich, scoring once.

Piscataway, New Jersey, July 21. The veteran Portuguese player, Eusebio, has signed a contract to play for the rest of the 1978 season and in 1979. —Reuter.

Cycling
Hinault almost certain of Tour-de-France triumph
Nancy, July 21.—Bernard Hinault, of France, virtually assured himself of victory in the Tour de France cycle race today by winning the twentieth stage and opening up a huge lead over Joop Zoetemelk, of The Netherlands.

Hinault, 14sec behind Zoetemelk overnight in what has become a two-man contest, cycled brilliantly in today's 47-mile time-trial stage to beat the Dutchman by 4min 10sec, taking the overall lead by 3min 55sec. With only two stages remaining, the 23-year-old Frenchman, riding for the first time in this event, now seems unbeatable.

The youth and stamina of Hinault, who earlier this season won the Tour de Spain and the French championship, proved decisive for him today against the 31-year-old Dutch veteran, who has been runner-up in the Tour de France three times. Zoetemelk failed to seize a firm enough hold on the event during the mountain stages in which he excels and today paid the price.

After the race Hinault was overcome with emotion: "I gave myself to the full in this race and I'm delighted," he said with tears in his eyes. Zoetemelk, the former Dutch champion, who lived for years in the shadow of Eddy Merckx, of Belgium, who retired after this year, was completely overshadowed today and said Hinault had beaten him comprehensively.

OVERALL PLACINGS: 1. B. Hinault (France), 2. J. Zoetemelk (Netherlands), 3. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 4. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 5. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 6. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 7. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 8. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 9. J. Van der Ven (Belgium), 10. J. Van der Ven (Belgium).

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Cricket

Kent have grown accustomed to winning

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

It must be doubtful whether Derbyshire have the batting to beat Kent in the final of the Benson and Hedges competition at Lord's today. Whereas they bowl and field well, and their wicket is very well kept by Taylor, they are more prone than Kent to batting collapses.

Kent, too, are more accustomed to winning these one-day matches than Derbyshire. On Wednesday I saw them beat Northamptonshire after starting defeat in one face, but much through confidence as technical superiority. Northamptonshire doubted their capacity to win; Kent played as though it was unlikely that they might lose. If, to some extent, be the same today.

Generally speaking I believe captains are only as good as their batsmen. But Barlow has provided Derbyshire with a new sense of purpose. There is no doubt about that. He has been rough with them and with himself too. Any one getting to the ground early today will see Derbyshire conducting themselves more as though it were the Tividown Test match than a Lord's final. Barlow has driven them to fuller fitness than they are likely to achieve again.

Nor are they short of good cricketers. Hendrick is likely to prove the most economical bowler in the match—more so even than Underwood—and considerably the most penetrating. Derbyshire's best chance could be to field first, if it is a morning for movement, and for Hendrick to get among the early Kent batsmen. Barlow, Taylor and Miller are also Test cricketers, and in Peter Kirsten Derbyshire have South Africa's newest batting star. Kirsten has a remarkable record in recent Currie Cup cricket. This is expected to be Barlow's last season with Derbyshire. The intensity with which he wishes to win is obvious. His team will be there today for all to see.

Belief short of high-class bowling—only Underwood is in that category—Kent are by no means certain to dispose of Middlesex. The same goes for Asif, Underwood, and Woolmer. All last winter in Australia. Woolmer played only limited-over cricket (domestic and one-day matches) with moderate success, and I have

never seen how many Underwood took. Today though they are the thick of things; before home and with more than money at stake, Kent would become the H to win the county championship sponsored by Benson and Hedges.

For Asif, Underwood, and Woolmer the occasion is an escape from relative obscurity. Peter Thomson, the great Australian golfer, was saying at St. Andrews, during the Open championship, how sad it is that some one like Dennis Lillee should have dropped out of the public eye since joining World Series Cricket. The same goes for Asif, Underwood, and Woolmer. All last winter in Australia. Woolmer played only limited-over cricket (domestic and one-day matches) with moderate success, and I have

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against them. But as he still so often does, Shepherd came to Kent's rescue. Of the mid sides Derbyshire is the one not to have lost a Benson and Hedges tie this season; Kent were beaten by Northamptonshire in one of the Benson and Hedges ties.

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Cuddihy takes a break to reach the final

By Levine Blair

It was only a month ago that John Cuddihy, who this morning meets Ian Carlaw in the 36-hole final of the Scottish amateur championship at Dornoch, became a club member in theory that he found himself unable to take the club away at the address.

He had failed, with rounds of 1 and one in the Scottish Open stroke play championship—and the more he practised, the worse he became. Finally, Cuddihy lost the only possible course of action was to take a break. For three weeks he did not touch a club—and then came back intent on keeping things simple. He has been plagued at Dornoch by the feeling that his swing "might not happen", but, having come back from three down with six to play

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Youngster reaches Welsh amateur final

By David McLean

David McLean (Holyhead) and an 18-year-old Aberystwyth (Erecon), will

